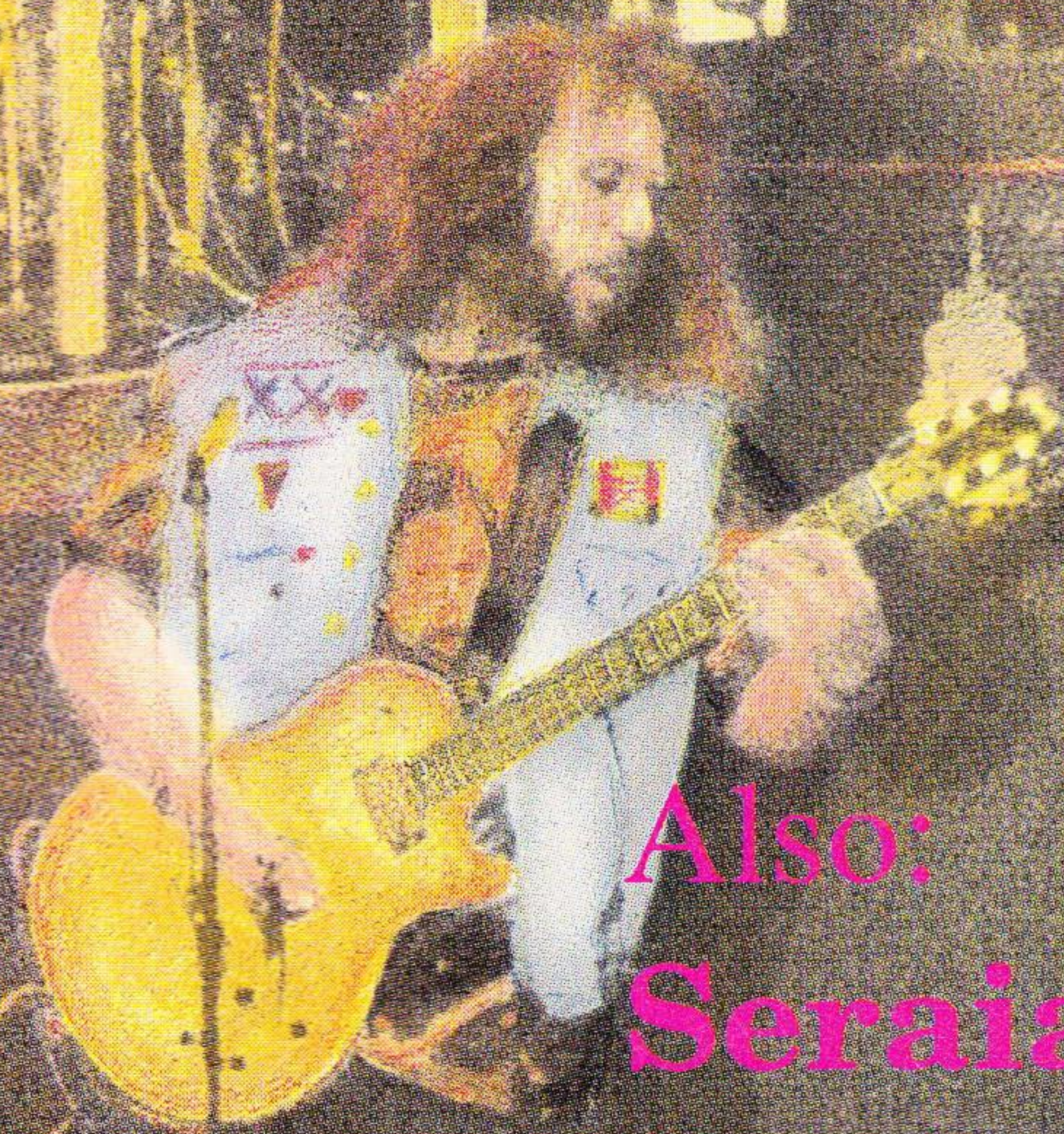


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July/August

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REZ: XX YEARS OF HONEST MINISTRY



REZ now

Anniversaries, birthdays, parties, commemorative concerts...what are we celebrating here? Well, the answer has to do with 20 years of integrity and faithful ministry before the Lord in the arena of blistering, soulful Hard Blues Rock a la REZ. Behind the interview microphone is band guitarist/vocalist/co-founder and spokesperson, Glenn Kaiser; filling us in on where the band's been and where they're still going.

****Why don't you walk us through the history of REZ, kind of encapsulating what REZ has done for the last 20 years?**

"Well, let's see: Rags to riches, trail of tears to big bucks..." laughs Glenn "...17 Dove Awards... Really, the truth is: I would hope to say that we have tried to be faithful to the calling of God on our lives--individually and collectively as a band. We were basically just people in their late teens who had all come through various mishaps and mayhem, as far as our own personal lives, with drugs and the whole nine yards. The majority of the people in REZ come from divorced families and problems and struggles. We've all been involved in different levels of drug abuse and alcoholism and sexual sin and we all had grown up listening to Rock and Roll, so when the Lord formed the band as an outreach of the community, it was simply trying to speak to people like us, who were seeking, in a language that would draw people to Jesus.

"So, we're talking straight evangelism and, as we grew, the practical aspect of discipleship came into focus. It was our chief message in those first couple of years, as we became disciples and discovered those things within the Scriptures and how it applied in our personal daily lives. As we grew further, the band got into lyrically dealing with things like racism, poverty and songs about the disabled;

so it wasn't just kind of straight-ahead evangelistic/testimonial/discipleship-oriented songs. Now we're talking what would be considered biblical justice lyrics/Matthew 25 things: food, clothing and dealing with widows and orphans, dealing with abortion and right on down the line.

"As far as the artistic side of the band, there always seemed to be two ways you could go about it. You could either be sort of a Rolling Stones kind of thing, where you would do a lot of different styles of music, but always within the parameters of Rock; or you could do more of an AC/DC approach, where all the albums sound the same and just try to get a little better each time, but pretty much, 'This is who they are and that is what you get.' For REZ, we were always more of the Stones, kind of schizophrenic band. There was a common thread, but we bounced around through all sorts of styles.

"Probably the bigger issue, in terms of why we did that, was so we could speak to a larger number of people and hopefully stretch those various styles within the Rock genre. As long as we could do that musically with some sense of integrity, so that it didn't sound like we were all trying to play a style of music that we couldn't really play or sing or do well. At the same time, a broader reason I'm sure, was that I tend to be pretty varied in what I listen to as well as in what I write. I love Blues and R&B and Soul music. I grew up listening to all of that. I also grew up listening to what was then known as Heavy Metal, Hard Rock, some Pop music--and I think you hear strains of all that in REZ through the albums and through the years.

"As far as what we tried to accomplish, it's real simple: win people to Jesus, disciple people who are already Christians, and really challenge people to care about those who are disabled, who are oppressed, who are poor;

you know, the Samaritans, the nobodies, the least of these. Those are the people we feel like we need to speak for and encourage people to reach to in love; not only with the Gospel, but that and also in terms of food and clothing and housing and right on down the line. This is all so basic to Scripture. And so that's really REZ in a nutshell, and hopefully that's what we've been about doing for the last 20 years.

"It might sound like, 'Wow, he's trying to cover all of the bases,' but I don't think it's that profound. I think it's just simply trying to live the Scriptures: read 'em and try to do 'em, and apply it to a band, like you would if you were doing something else. It doesn't matter what you do in life, whether you sing or whether you're a housewife or a math teacher or whatever. Hopefully, you'd think and pray and apply the Scriptures to your life and, when you'd open your mouth, you'd talk about different issues or areas of need in the world or in the church. You'd naturally look to the

Scriptures for direction and for solutions, and then you'd do what you could do practically to reach out and meet these needs, as well as encourage others to do the same in their particular context. That's really what REZ is about.

"On the artistic side, again I'd have to say, 'We've tried to deal with artistic integrity.' I don't think it's accurate to say that we're simply an excuse to minister. I can't say that 100% without having my tongue in my cheek a little. We really do take what we do musically/artistically seriously, but we're always going to slant and lean towards the Lord and spiritual issues. We just aren't going to apologize for that.

"A perfect analogy is your upcoming marriage: Are you getting married because you want to get married? Are you getting married because you love her? Has God directed you to get married? (Laughs)"

****Or "D." All of the above.**

"Exactly. I can't say in all honesty that this whole thing is purely an excuse to preach the Gospel or disciple people, but that is why we do what we do. It is not, first off, an opportunity to have fun and basically, you know, be adult crayons--that's what guitars are. I mean, is life not bigger than my amp?"

****Why don't you give me both some mishap and praise report stories?**

"We've had plenty of both. Mishaps? Umm. Well, there have been many nights where things have blown up and it's like, you rehearse, you rehearse, yet they still happen. You go nuts. We go out on tour and I forget words to songs I have written...it's just pathetic. The classic example was in Costa Mesa at Calvary Chapel. Everybody and their uncle and their boyfriend; the whole record label, Ocean, was there. It's packed out and

being video taped and it's live on the radio. You know, the whole thing.

"Bargain" had been number one for quite a while and we went into it. I don't know how many songs into the set it was, but it was fairly early in the set and we were really rolling along and man, everybody's going nuts. It's just a really fun concert and encouraging evening. We started the song and I can't for the life of me remember the lyrics to start the song. I mean, just mental block personified! It was like, 'Uh, now what?' (laughs) I was looking into the camera grinning like an idiot, like, 'Guess what, Jack? I don't know from Adam the words to this song...' I didn't even begin to remember the lyrics--at all. Oh, what a humbling moment. I just started laughing. All these people in the front row were looking at me with real, kind of like sad eyes and they're mouthing the words to try and help me, to prompt me (laughs more). That was a classic moment. I always look at that as pretty good for your humility.

"Several nights--in Memphis, a town in Norway and another time in Brisbane, Australia--we're setting off all the smoke alarms in the joint and the entire audience empties out and there's firemen running all over the place with axes. You know, this has happened several times to us. We'll be playing and, towards the end of the song, everyone just gets up and leaves, very quietly, but very quickly. And my eyes are closed, I'm singing, and I happen to open my eyes towards the end of the song and I realize everybody's left. It's loud on stage and we can't hear the alarms. All these bells are ringing, but we can't hear it.

"A real classic was the first time we went to Canada years ago. We've always had these big old honkin' school buses, you know, big old red school buses with Jesus' name in four foot letters. We were so excited, you know, big concert, sold out weeks in advance. I think it was Steve Camp and REZ. There was a lot of excitement. We had sold a lot of albums up there and I think it was just 'AWAITING YOUR REPLY' and 'RAINBOW'S END,' after the first two albums. So, it's like: here come the conquering heroes into Toronto, sold out for weeks in advance, press conference and national tv and all this stuff waiting...and the bus breaks down. Here we are: t-shirts and flip-flops, and we're out behind the bus and it's raining and there's mud and junk and we're literally pushing this bus across the border. Like, 'Here come the big-shots or something.' It was so funny. I've thought about that a lot, like the Lord's just gonna say, 'Right, I won't let you get too messed up. I'm gonna make sure you remember Who it is that you're fueled by and what this is all about. I could tell you many, many stories.

"Praise reports: I can give you one from this weekend. Darrell Mansfield and I did a 'TRIMMED AND BURNIN' set at a festival over in Denmark for Easter. It was really encouraging. A couple hundred people prayed to receive the Lord. I got to preach at the end and the Lord did a lot of things: (we)



REZ circa 1974

prayed for some people for the baptism, prayed for deliverance for somebody. It was a pretty intense night.

"Well, the promoter had come up and he said, 'Remember, you did a gig in Denmark?' We've only played in Denmark once. We've been all over Europe and did a lot of touring, but only played in Denmark one time. I still believe this is probably the darkest country in all of Europe, spiritually. Really terrible morals and it's just a mess. But, this one town we did 11 or 12 years ago, so, of course, I remembered it. The promoter, one of the two guys that did this gig 11 or 12 years ago, showed up at this concert this last weekend. He came up and said a really bunch of encouraging things to me at the end of the night.

"It was one of those few concerts in the history of the band that I don't really remember anybody praying to receive the Lord or to repent of anything. I don't remember any real response from that night--and that's very, very unusual for us. That night I said, 'Oh well, we've been faithful and we've tried to do our best, so the Lord's gonna do what He's gonna do,' so I leave it to Him. Just because you don't see visible fruit doesn't mean that God didn't move in people's lives that night.

"Well, the promoter comes up, and here it is: 11, 12 years later. He's followed us over the years and he's really encouraged. He said, 'You know, that was one of our first concerts. We did terrible promotion.' He kept saying it was one of the best concerts they felt they had done, because that night about half a dozen people that he knew of received the Lord. Well, I never knew that.

"He said, 'In that very night, all of them really met Jesus, and they're still following. They're very strong into the Lord and really committed.' Well, that blew me away, because I never knew that, and then he said, 'This festival you're playing at here today...you need to meet somebody,' and he took me across to another hall and there was a full-on cranking band. I honestly can't remember their name now. They're Danish guys and they've got this slammin' band and I

went over and these guys have tears in their eyes. It turned out the two guys that started this band were both at that concert 11 or 12 years ago. That night they had decided that God really called them into music ministry and they decided they were going to start a band and start preaching the Gospel--as a result of seeing REZ. And here they were years later doing it, and really doing it from their hearts, and really a good band. It just blew me away. I was so encouraged. We just hugged each other, and I prayed for 'em and their set.

"You just don't know, sometimes, what the Lord's doing and how He can use you to effect people. But, if you're faithful and if you'll be obedient, He will. Over and over again we've gotten so much encouragement, from letters and phone calls and on and on and on, you know, of people that have come to the Lord or had their marriages restored. That kind of stuff happens all the time to us, and that's really what it's all about--people getting saved, people becoming disciples, people really following the Lord. (There are lots of) People that we know that are in ministry on a number of levels, people that are pastors, associate pastors or youth pastors as a result of something REZ has said.

"That's...what am I going to say? Should I be more impressed that we sell a lot of albums, or something, where the numbers are on the charts? What does that mean? So, really those are the praise reports. It really gets down to people's lives being changed. They take Jesus seriously and really live for Him. If in any way, shape or form the Lord uses you or me or anybody, it's the best praise report. Nothing else really matters.

"I don't know if the world needs more bands or famous people. I don't really see the point in that. I think the world needs more human beings in it. I don't know how you can be a human being until you get your eyes off yourself. When they're on the Lord and you're being faithful to be a witness and example of a follower of Jesus and love is acted, and I don't mean acted as in posed, but truly lived out, biblical love--then I think your life has incredible value. All human life has

incredible value regardless--even whether or not you're a Christian. That's why Jesus died for us, because we all have value. But the bottom line is when you obey Him. What did Paul say? 'I thank God that He counted me faithful, that He counted me worthy and putting me in His ministry.' I don't know how many times I've thought, 'I am the chief of sinners. I'm the least of the least.' There's people that can sing, play and write us under the table; and that's fine.

"I don't know how to say this, but I'd be more than happy to be overshadowed--and we have been and will be--in the artistic sense and in a spiritual sense by a hundred bands. That's fine. That's not even an issue. I'll help 'em if I can (laughs). I don't care. Lord knows this world is in need of more disciplined, loving, Bible-thinking, believing, living Christians, whether they play guitar or not. And man, if there's anything I can do to help, if the Lord leads, believe me, let's go. So, REZ, I don't know what REZ is. It's five people and a whole lot of other people praying and helping and encouraging us, trying to be faithful and obedient to God's calling on our lives. Hopefully that'll continue, however long the Lord's wants it to go. It's up to Him. 20 years, 80 years, what's the difference?"

**I remember back in 1985 turning on MTV and seeing the video for "Crimes." How did that feel for you?

"It's always nice to be in the situation where you can kind of share...being as a beggar--sharing with more beggars the bread of life. I guess that's really all I can say on that end. It was good and I'm glad that it happened. I'm really not trying to sound spiritual or sound 'virtuous,' because that's the way you ought to sound if you're a minister or whatever... You know what I mean? There's a sense that you're happy that your video got played and people liked it or thought that there was some value or worth in it. I was glad when there could be any sort of witness at all for the Lord in that situation, but the crowd is always fickle and people's taste and personal opinions about music and art and all that change. So, there's kind of an, 'Thanks very much Father, and so what!' It kinda goes both ways, you know what I'm saying?

"You've got to live with yourself. You really do. There's this thing called conscience. I think some people's consciences are for sale and I really beg the Lord that this doesn't come off as self-righteous, but that's just not gonna happen, not for this band. We've already been bought, so you can't buy us again. We don't even own ourselves. We don't have a right to this band. It's not like you own what you do. Jesus owns you. You have no right to auction yourself off, in terms of auctioning off integrity. So, when you see something like 'Crimes' on MTV, you say, 'Thank You, Father' and cast your bread on the waters and let the Lord take it where He wants."



Glenn under fire (Photo by Karen Gray)

**Some people probably ask this question occasionally: What is the reasoning behind the spelling changes of your name?

"It's very simple. The band started being called 'Charity,' which is King James for love. Within about a five or six month stretch we went full-on, blow-out Rock and Roll, which was then called Heavy Metal, which would probably now be called straight-ahead Hard Rock; so we were looking for a stronger name. We did a lot of praying. Some of the guys came up with some names, like 'Obadiah' (laughs) or 'Oil of Joy' (laughs even louder). There was some real winners.

"Actually, I think I came up with Resurrection; which, check this out, there was a Chicago-based three-piece full-on, blow-out band which was called 'Om' and they had broken up and got back together again and they were popular regionally. The title of their comeback album was 'RESURRECTION.' I thought, 'Well man, if a secular band can use that word...I mean, where does that word come from? What's the whole point? The point is that Jesus is alive. He's risen. It has incredible power. I can't think of a more powerful thing than the resurrection of Jesus. God the Father literally raises His Son from the dead. I mean, give me a break, that's so intense. So, when the music change happened, it made sense to change the name. I said, 'Well, what about Resurrection? I've been thinking about that for a long time.' Everybody just said, 'Man, that's it,' you know, the pastors and everybody, so it was Resurrection.

"Then people would say, 'Resurrection Band.' As time went on, people called us Rez Band and so on, and then people started referring to us as REZ. It was like that for a long time. I started thinking personally that Rez Band or Resurrection Band especially, sounded like a band that maybe played 50's music, like doing Buddy Holly hits or something, kind of like a music revival thing. I

just started thinking, 'Well, why not just call it REZ? That's what everybody's been calling us forever, so why not.' So that's what we did. It was real simple. We talked about it, but it wasn't like, 'Let's do something weird' or controversial or something. Every now and then somebody writes us and says, 'Gee, why did you do that?' But it was really a pretty natural progression."

**Why don't you tell me about this live album and the concert you just recorded?

"It was pretty intense, I'll tell you that. People have been asking for a long time for more video stuff on us. It takes a lot out of you to do a video. It just does. Everything we do here--it really does take a lot of effort and we try to put a great deal of prayer and talk and time and effort into what we do. We're limited financially, so we try and do everything we can do ourselves, so we spent a great deal of time on this and we thought, 'Wait a minute! It's our 20th anniversary next year. It's also the anniversary of the community, so we started talking about doing a live show in Chicago and then we started kicking around video-ing it, so we said, 'Look, we haven't done a live album in a time, and we see a lot of fruit live and people kept on talking over the years about 'BOOT-LEG' and, 'I hear you've got a sermon on the end of it.' So many people have used that album like a musical tract and led a lot of people to the Lord with it. So, everything seemed to come down around those lines. We talked and prayed and between the band and the pastors, so we went ahead and went for it. Just hired the truck and did it.

"We said, 'We'll do something off all the albums,' which took some thinking and doing again, because you've done this many albums, and trying to do something off all those albums is like, 'Whew!' having to re-learn songs that we haven't done for a number of years. And then: 'What songs are you going to

leave off?' Because somebody's always going to feel like, 'Oh man! I wish they would've done this song or that one.' Of course, people have different favorites, but what are you gonna do when you have 80 songs? So, we did about a 28-song set and I think we're probably gonna end up with somewhere between 23 and 25 songs on the album and on the video. We did a few new ones.

"I preached and a bunch of people prayed to receive the Lord. It was a very fruitful night. It was fun. We saw a lot of people that we hadn't seen for a while, some people came out to the concert that probably don't come out to concerts all that much, but were excited to come out and see the band. A lot of friends flew in from L.A. and other places. It was very, very encouraging. Grace, and Glory, which is our Gospel choir at JPUSA, came out and we did one of the songs, 'My Jesus is All.' I sang on that and Grace and Glory pumped out on stage and backed me up, and also Willie Kemp of Cauz 'N' Efekt. So, he came out and sang on it and did some dancing. It was really a blast. We did some special things that night as well. I did a Gary Davis song and just a lot of stuff.

"I didn't feel particularly excited until we actually got there that night and it was all happenin.' It's gonna take a while to edit it all. We're working to get the album itself released, the cassette and CD's at Cornerstone this year. The video's gonna take a little bit longer. There's some discussion about editing different parts in. We were in South Africa for 25 days a couple of months ago, and in Germany and Switzerland before that, and we shot a lot of footage. Some intense things are happening in Europe and South Africa, so we've got a lot of footage and we're kicking around putting in some of that and maybe putting in a little bit about the community at the end of it, you know, really just giving a well-rounded package.

"We want to be thorough. We ask ourselves, 'How can we really do something that'll be fulfilling, so that by the time you're at the end of this you really know a little bit more about who we are and what we do and really give a full and cohesive witness for the Lord and encouragement to believers who are thinking about what they should be doing with their lives or what options are there available?' So, hopefully the video itself will be released some time in the fall. If we can pull it off to where it's available before Christmas, that would be nice. It's gonna take a lot of work. We're talking zillions of hours."

**It's been 20 years. What do you have to say?

"Well, if I had to do it all over again, the only thing that I would eliminate is old nature in my own life. As far as that goes, those moments where I have been uptight or proud or have at times just missed the boat. When the Lord was saying, 'Turn left,' and I turned right. It's been public for a long time--the top three major struggles I have in my life are basic areas: the lust of the eyes, taking a second look at somebody or letting things go in my thoughts, my head; and food, just overeating and doing things I shouldn't do in terms of eating. Those have been the big three and I've

always said, 'you can talk to my wife or my daughters or any of the pastors about all the other stuff (laughs). I've grown in those areas and I think the Lord's really given me grace in those areas over the 20 years that the band has been together; but those are the things I'm most concerned about. That's just the truth. Other than that, I wouldn't change a thing in terms of my own life or what the Lord's done in REZ.

"Again, I pray about it a lot and I think about it a lot and I try really hard not to assume some sort of 'role' in the whole Christian music sphere. There's a difference between assuming a role and if the Lord has really gifted or called you, say for instance, pastorally or whatnot. But I guess that probably the other side of it, it weighs me under sometimes, because I see a lot of folks struggling. So many younger ones have never been disciplined, never grounded in the Word, and don't have a healthy example of being a minister.

"I think there's a lot of life left in those guys."
--Les Carlsen

"What I've got in JPUSA, people would die for. I mean, spiritually, financially for my family, and for this band, it's great. But I know that God hasn't called everybody to live with us or to live in community or do the things we do as we do them, exactly as we do them, but I do feel bad that there are a lot of musicians that I bump into; and it's not even a matter of judgment, it's a matter of them confessing it or sharing it or you walk in on them and there's major problems, struggles, either bitterness or they're disillusioned or they're just flat out in sin, in things that the Scripture says is unbiblical behavior.

"The younger ones, it really worries me for them, because they in turn as musicians, are influencing so many hundreds, if not thousands, of others. For the older ones, well that really hurts, because some of these folks really have heard the Gospel, have at least to a degree, been taught about accountability and discipleship and what it means to really live out the scriptures at the most basic level; but give themselves way too much slack and simply go over the edge and, you know, many times will just kind of disavow their conscience--and that burdens me. I can't but feel somewhat responsible to some degree, because REZ was one of those few bands that were back there in the beginning of the whole thing.

"So, that's the other side of this 20 years. I don't know if the fact that I feel burdened about it is bad. That at times I probably feel excessively burdened about it is not good. I know that I'm not the savior. I'm not God. I'm not everybody's pastor, but when I see people who are hitting the wall or who are really hurting or really struggling, there's no way. I mean, the Word says, 'Weep with those who weep.' I do rejoice with those who rejoice,

but sometimes it gets real, real heavy, because I really have seen a lot of people stumble and a lot of people blow up in their marriages.

"A lot of it is just because they don't have the foundations or because at one point in the road they just sold out. They just plain, old fashioned made terrible, unscriptural decisions and now they're chewing it, or their wife or their kids are. That's been really difficult. 20 years of that I would wish on no one. So, I do what I can to pray, to talk to people one on one and occasionally to make public statements. I rarely name names. God have mercy on us all. God have mercy on the church and on the music community, because ultimately we all need it. I can tell you that God has been absolutely faithful to protect us and to carry us through 20 years of a great deal of pain and a great deal of love and a great deal of joy."

(The whole gamut.)

"Well, you know, it's just life. Life in a fallen world and in a church that is anything but perfect and yet is accepted in the beloved, as the Scripture says. I tell you, that it's got to be faith and obedience in the end. If it was a matter of works, I don't know any of us that would make it in the door. So, that's the sobering side. Pastorally it's really difficult to stand by. And I rarely do stand by when I'm aware that somebody's really messed up. I certainly pray for 'em or try to pass the ball to somebody who can speak into their lives. Unfortunately, a lot of the time I ask the people, 'Why aren't you speaking into this person's life? You work with them, you know them, you're in the church with them or you're part of the band, you're in management or you're an agent and you know these things. How can you stand back and watch this happen? You know too much. You're accountable before God for what you know.' That's the hard part.

"We just don't have as many Nathans as we need. So, that can be a little hard for me to deal with sometimes. I know I'm not to be the Nathan in each and every situation. I'm well aware of that. It's hard to sit back... You know what I think about a lot? 'That could just as easily have been me.' Where would I have been all these years when I've been tempted or when I struggled or when I've gone over the edge in an area in my life, whether it's falling into masturbation or just being unkind or unthinking or making some big statement to somebody and didn't think of the ramifications, or whatever. When I've blown it somehow, where would I have been if I hadn't had people to speak to me in love and really correct me, rebuke me, love me, sit me down and say, 'Wait a minute. You said this; the Word says this. You've acted this way. The Scriptures said Jesus would've done it like this.' I wonder sometimes... I just really wonder whether or not too many of us are just struggling to stay alive and survive financially or something, maintain some kind of reputation, as opposed to being honest followers of the Lord, who stumble and struggle. So, that's the heavier side of these 20 years. I better end there."

**Praise the Lord.

"Amen. Absolutely amen. He's worthy."
HM

Metal Praise--Worshipping At Full Volume

What happens when you get several Metal warriors together to record a praise and worship album? The result can be heard on the METAL PRAISE album, and the following interview with some of the participants gives some insight into what went on in the making of it.

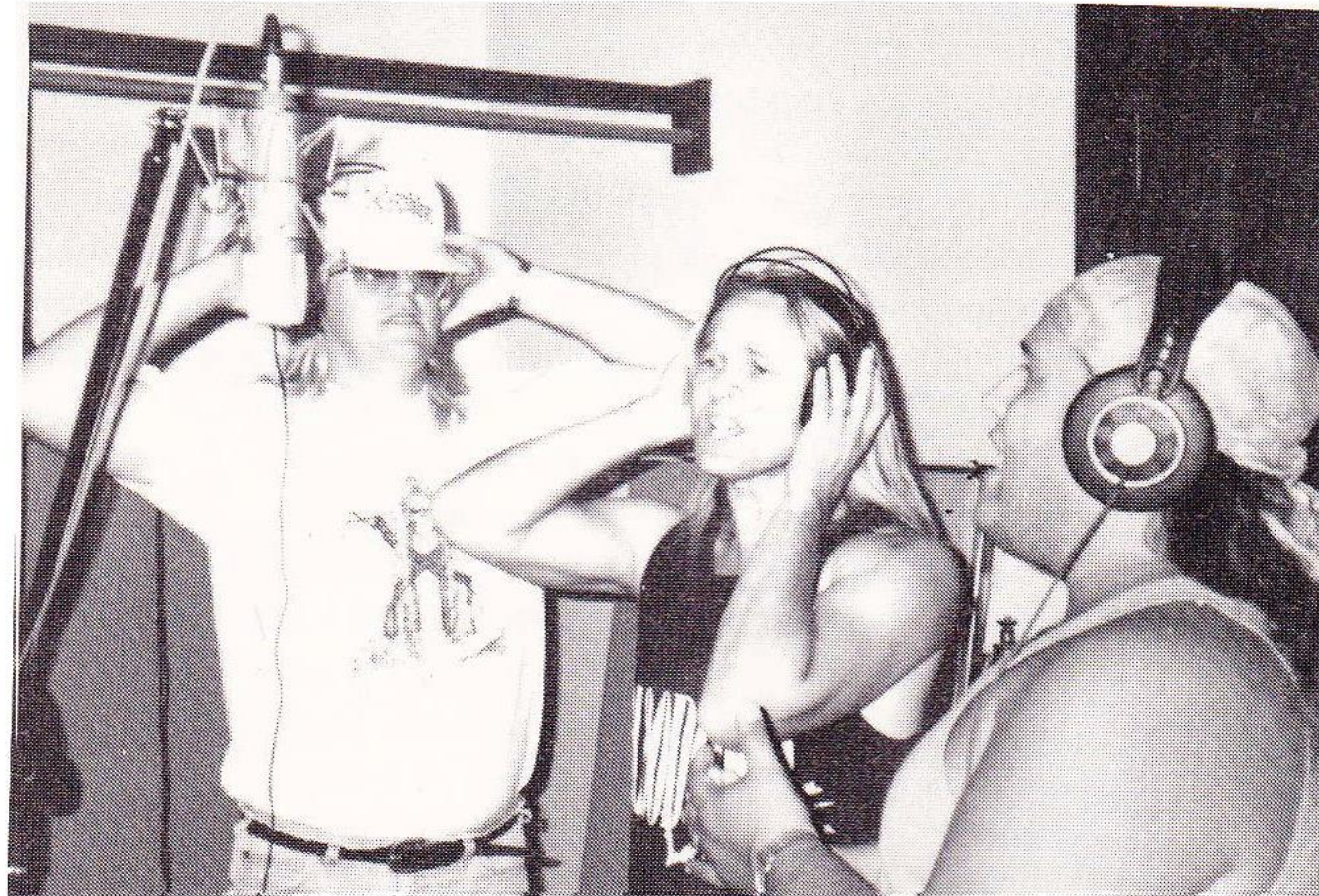
What went down was that Wonderland wizard Caesar Kalinowski has a "production deal" with Word Records, which means he produces a couple of album projects for Word every year. The concept for this album, obviously, was to take some praise and worship tunes and metalize them much like Sacred Warrior did with "Holy, Holy, Holy" on its second album. So, who did Caesar call in for duty? None other than Sacred Warrior's Bruce Swift, Tony Velazquez and Rey Parra (since they know how to do it); and other worshipping veterans as well, like: REZ's Glenn Kaiser, Bloodgood's Les Carlsen, Rex Carroll of Whitecross, Jeff Scheetz, ex-Barren Cross bassist Jim La Verde, X-Sinner's Rex Scott, Fighter's Bill Heller and Shaun Murphy, and Grace 'N' Gory (JPUSA's new Death Metal choir--ha! just kidding...Glory, Grace 'N' Glory).

Into the newly-refurnished ex-Masonic Temple (home of Wonderland) they came, ready to praise God on tape. Both the guitarists and vocalists were laying down leads on rough rhythm tracks. "When I was there," says guitar virtuoso Jeff Scheetz, "I was the only one in the studio, so I just basically played over the parts they had. I hadn't even had a chance to hear 'em in advance, so I just went in and listened to 'em and played. I literally don't remember anything I played. It was kinda strange, because it was right in the middle of recording my album, 'DIG.' We were in the studio for about a month doing that and, right in the middle of that was when I had to fly out and do the 'METAL PRAISE' thing. I had been working the night before on 'DIG,' then flew out of Kansas City at about 6 a.m., lugged my amp through Chicago airport, got there by noon and left by 5 o'clock, so I just went in and just slammed these things out for about four hours and flew back out and went right back into the studio--so it's kind of a blur."

"When I did my vocal parts it was to drum machine," says Les Carlsen, "so the track that I sang to isn't the track that's on there." Due to the varied schedules of the participating musicians, much of the album was pieced together at separate times, although some background choruses from the "Bloody Sacred Sinner Choir," consisting of Les, Rey Parra and Rex Scott, were recorded together. "The thing that I recall the most about it was that Rex and Rey and I had a great time," says Les Carlsen. "We were doing some stacking of the vocals."

"It would have been neat to see the whole entire process go down from beginning to end," laments Rex Scott. "That's the only regret I'd have of the whole deal, was having to

Rex, Les & Rey



just come in and do your piece. It was the same for everybody, though. It was great working with Les and Rey and everyone else that I got to hang with during the short time that I was there. All in all it was just a great blessing to be a part of it. What was different about this record was that I had to come in and just learn the arrangements on the spot, basically, because they had pre-tracked the arrangements. The most unique part of it was just adapting the melodies and stuff right on the spot to what they wanted. Other than that, though, it was just the same ole song and dance. You just get into the vocal booth and do your thing."

Before Rex went in the vocal booth to "do his thing," though, Caesar led him to a huge room to warm up his vocals in. "They had this room that had this huge ceiling," tells Rex, "and you felt like you walked into this Cecil B. De Mille movie set. It had big pillars painted on the wall and these Cyrus Eagle goddesses and intricate lattice work all across the walls and ceiling. You walked right into a Hollywood set thing. And you're in this big, huge room all by yourself warming up for vocal tracks and stuff and the echo and everything, the sound was superb. It was just eerie-er than weird. The whole place has one hall leading into another secret room and all this weird stuff, real weird architecture and stuff, which gave it this real bizarre air."

"On breaks Jim LaVerde and myself, and whoever we could get to come along with, would just go exploring the place. Jim was really funny. He totally got into the place. He kept saying, 'I love this kind of stuff!' Me and Jim stayed in Caesar's house during our stay."

Besides the individual tracking done on this "guest artist" project, the other most interesting thing about it was that it had a unique vertical relationship happening due to the nature of praise and worship. "The whole thing being a praise project was the first type of thing like that I've ever done," says Rex. "That whole aspect is unique in itself to me. Really, the impact of that was more so when I was doing the vocal tracking with Rey and Les, because we were actually doing the a cappella

praise track and then backing vocals on a lot of the cuts.

"We did that right away before I did any of my lead vocal tracks, so I got right into the praise mode right away. It was real cool. When you get two or more gathered...it was just a result of that. You can tell that the stuff was anointed, there's no doubt about it. That was a unique part of it for me. I had never experienced that in anything other than inside a church atmosphere. To actually take it into a recording studio and do it with people that you respect and admire is cool."

"Besides the fact that the Bible talks about praising the Lord," says Les, "the Bible says

that the Lord inhabits the praises of His people," which kind of explains the supernatural "uniqueness" of this project. "What it means to me," continues Les, "is that when we're praising God He's kind of living it up with us as we praise Him. The way that I understand the Word is that we were basically created to praise God and have fellowship with the Lord. So, when we are praising the Lord, we are drawing ourselves closer to Him and Him closer to us. It's just an intimate time of oneness with God, I think."

"Generally, it gives me a great feeling of peace, inner peace which comes from the Lord while we praise Him. He's worthy of praise, because the Bible says that there's no name higher than the Name of Jesus, the Son of the Most High God. When we worship Him, He deserves it in a sense that He's worthy to be worshipped and praised. And obviously, the guys that didn't worship and praise Him, that rebelled against Him--look what happened to them. It's not like an ego thing that God has. I think it's a balance thing that God has for us, that while we're praising Him and worshipping Him, that makes us complete and a well-rounded creation as we were intended--to be one with God, as opposed to separation from God. And obviously, people who don't believe in God don't worship and praise Him. I think it's important because God created us to be beings that would worship and praise Him. It's a natural thing for people to praise God for being God."

But what about the tough image I'm trying to uphold with my leather jacket and all? "As far as being tough," responds Les, "No. We're not supposed to be tough. We're supposed to be loving and gentle and kind and humble and all of those things. That doesn't just apply to Heavy Metal guys, it applies to pastors and evangelists and just people who go to church and love the Lord. We all can get a little rough-edged at times, but we really should be led by the Spirit. We should allow the Spirit to beat out the flesh."

If worship helps beat out the flesh, then this album ought to really help us nail that "old man" into the coffin a little more securely.

HM



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SERAIAH OUT OF THE CARNIVAL WORLD



Kyle, Tracy, Brad & Quinton

Heaven's Metal catches up with one of Star Song's newest acts (weren't they on Pure Metal last year?) to find out a Metal band does with itself in Indiana. Read on as Seraiah lead vocalist Brad Beckey tells all.

****Why don't you describe what led you to the musical direction change on this album?**

"A lot of it," says Brad, "had to do just with us kind of re-focusing our ministry. Our ministry before was exclusively kind of towards a non-Christian audience. A lot of our songs were kind of message/topical oriented songs about abortion and suicide and stuff like that. Really, we're trying to focus more on a Christian audience and meeting the Christian people's needs, because we feel like that's what we must do--is meet their needs. In turn, by meeting their needs, both lyrically and musically, it gives them more of a reason to bring their unsaved friends to the show. It also helps equip them for ministry. It's like, 'Okay, we've met your needs. Now bring your unsaved friends to the show.' That's where we see a lot of the fruit and ministry and stuff.

"That's mostly like the lyrical change. The musical change was basically just wanting to broaden our horizons. We're all fans of everything from Classic Rock and Roll to heavier stuff. It was just more of a, 'Let's incorporate more of a different genre into our live show,' yet we still want to be heavy."

****How was it working with producer Steve Griffith?**

"Working with Steve was great. He gave us a new perspective on things. He got us to branch out a little bit and try different things, like mixing a lot of alternate percussion kind of stuff. He was very creative. His mind works in such a way that he can grab onto a catchy hook and use it to its fullest. He really helped us construct our songs from the ground up."

****What exactly did he do with you**

specifically? What were some of the examples?

"He and I re-wrote melodies for different songs. He always said the way I wrote melodies was kind of like the 70's, like a Robert Plant kind of thing. He personally helped me straighten out my melodies to make 'em a little more memorable to your average listener. I know for Quinton, he really helped him be more innovative and stuff, not just power chords, but arpeggio kind of things."

****Tell me about the motivation behind the song "New Voodoo."**

"The motivation behind that was me personally. I heard about a religion called Santaria, which mixes Catholicism with some of the... Actually it takes the saints which the Catholic church uses and mixes it with Black Magic. It's considered by a lot of people that the 'White Magic' is a good kind of thing and not a bad thing. I just wanted to expose it for what it was. It's not a religion centered on the Lord Jesus Christ. If it's not that, it's definitely not of God. That was the real inspiration behind that. I thought it was something that needed to be talked about. I know a lot of it has spread here. It came up from Jamaica and some of the Caribbean Islands and spread across the States now."

****How about the song "Angry Young Boy?"**

"Kyle wrote the lyrics to that one. That kind of talks about the stuff we face everyday in the world as Christians and how easy it is to get fed up with everything the world is throwing at us, how it's beating us over the head with what they have to offer, and kind of the frustration that goes along with that, but knowing that we can find our comfort in the Lord. Sometimes we get mad about what's going on around us in the world."

****The majority of you guys graduated last year. How has that schooling helped you guys?**

"Kyle and Quinton are the two that actually graduated from Indiana Wesleyan. As far as Quinton, his major was music. That's kind of obvious how that helped him, as far as theory and stuff like that, writing songs. Kyle was a Business major and I know that helped him a lot, because he handles all the band's business stuff. Without him, we wouldn't have a business side of Seraiah."

****Describe a day in the life of Brad Beckey.**

"Gee, that might give people a bad impression of a Christian musician (laughs). I'll admit: I sleep in. I get up and, lately here, I've been doing various things, like working on a sticker design to take on the road for new merchandise. I call my girlfriend, and see how Kyle is doing and then we practice. We practice almost every night. That's what most of my life is consisted of, practicing and getting ready for our up and coming tour."

****So, you do the band full-time?**

"Yeah, pretty much when I can. When I need to, I go find a job or whatever."

****What do the other guys do on their typical days?**

"Well, Kyle, like I said, handles the business end of things, so he's usually busy all day booking shows, talking to the record company. He also teaches drum lessons here in town. It's kind of the same with Quinton. Most of his days are taken up with lessons. He has 30 guitar students, and he's also kind of an intern professor at the university here for the last two years."

****Why don't you tell me about your plans for the upcoming tour?**

"We're doing a fairly large tour. A lot of people keep telling us it's unheard of for a band that's basically still kind of starting out, like we are. We're doing around 20 to 23 dates in about a month and a half period. It's going to be hectic. It's fun to hook up with a lot of great promoters and stuff."

"This thing is kind of an East Coast thing. We'll play Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, but it's all the way from Pennsylvania down to Florida. We're hoping to hit the Texas area too."

****Describe a Seraiah show.**

"I'm going to go out on a limb here. This Seraiah show, that if people come out to see it, I will say it could possibly one of the best Christian Rock shows they will ever see. We've got a lot of cool surprises and cool stuff happening in this show that we've been working hard on. There's a lot of high-energy stuff and I don't think anybody will be disappointed. Not to brag too much there (laughs)."

****What is a major lesson that you have learned and/or the Lord has taught you in**

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the last year?

"Basically, a major lesson I've learned is to make sure that my focus is on Him. I went through a time where I was living my life for a lot of other things around me: other relationships. I was more concerned about girlfriend/boyfriend kind of things. I think He showed me that I can't put those things before Him. Those are simple, basic things that I'm sure a lot of people go through."

**Is there anything else you'd like covered?

"We'd really like to encourage the youth pastors across the United States to get involved with ministries like ourselves. Bands like us and other friends of ours, like the guys in Novella, are really interested in getting involved in their ministries and really helping them seeing their youth groups grow and stuff like that. I think as a team working together, us and the youth pastors, we'll see a lot more kids across the United States won to the Kingdom of God. That's one thing that we're trying to do out on this tour: be very youth-oriented. That's all sorts of youth, not just the head-bangers and stuff out there that are unsaved."

"That's a very big concern of ours too, but I don't know what it is exactly but there's a very small percentage of kids who are actually involved in Christian music, who buy Christian music and go to Christian concerts. We want to see those kids get more involved in a tool like this, which can be so easily used to

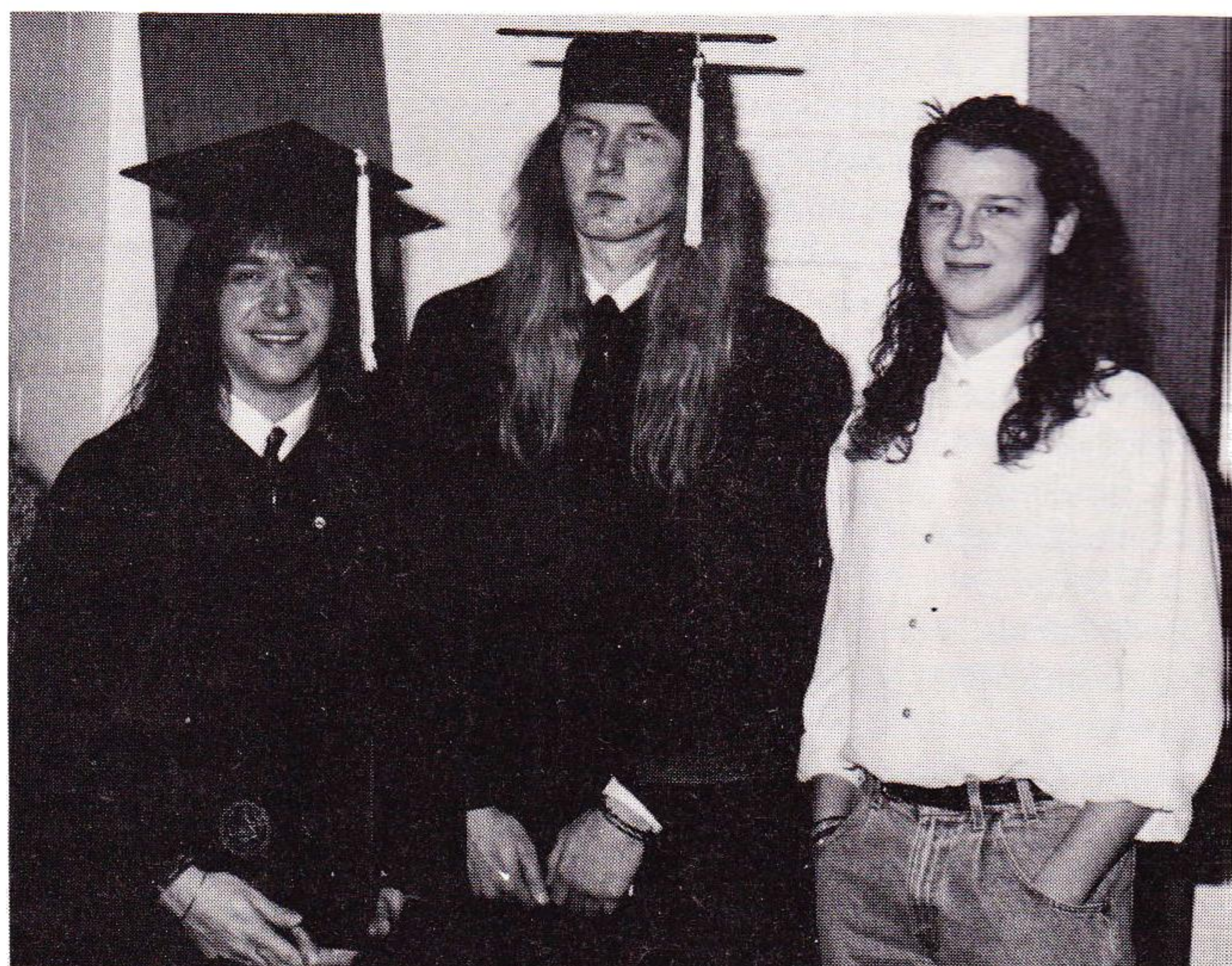
minister to their friends. It's so easy to go up to one of their friends and go, 'Hey, check out the new Seraiah tape or Novella tape or Bride tape or whatever.' That right there could be a start of something that'll create interest to come out and see a Seraiah show. It doesn't take a whole lot of guts or anything like that. That'd be an easy thing to do."

**You guys have apparently moved from the Pure Metal label to the Star Song label. How do you guys feel about that?

"We're really happy to be on Star Song, just because it shows an increased confi-

dence in us, which makes us happy. Not to say that any of the bands on Pure Metal don't have their confidence, but I think that shows that they're expecting some things for us. Hopefully the Lord will bless us in the way that they're expecting."

"We're going to Central America in July. We're going to El Salvador and Guatemala again. We're taking Bibles, supplied by the American Bible Society. We're also looking for pledges, people who'd want to pledge money to buy the Bibles. They're like \$2 apiece. People can write: PO Box 1192, Marion, IN 46952. We'll still get mail there, but we're relocating to Nashville in July." HM



THE VISION OF SARDONYX



TOM DENLINGER
OF SARDONYX

Sardonyx is approaching its music in a very unique way, as this interview with band leader/vocalist Tom Denlinger will show. The band is playing this year's Creation Festival and is releasing its debut album this month. Read on and find out why Sardonyx is not your typical Christian Metal band.

****Briefly describe some of the ministries that Sardonyx is involved in.**

"Sardonyx started in 1988," says Tom, "with the intention of becoming a strong music ministry. From the very start we realized the need for adequate follow-up for kids who are interested in following Christ. We also realized that few bands have accomplished a decent follow-up program. Let me tell you, we spent a lot of time praying and waiting for God during the past four years. Our main prayer was, and still is, 'Lord, never allow us to prosper as a band unless it is your timing and will.' Believe me, He has answered our prayers. We waited and waited and waited for all kinds of reasons as a band and in the meantime we set up our ministry base, called Lightshine International Ministries. It is almost like God said, 'Okay, we'll do things in My way and in My time. In the meantime you trust Me and think about what you're going to do with the fruit I give you.' So, to make a very long story short, we developed Lightshine while practicing hard in Sardonyx.

"Lightshine has four main areas of ministry: 1) Lightshine Metal Magazine is our follow-up magazine that we send to anyone who wants to get it. 2) Thunder Zone is our radio show, which is aired every Friday night in the Lancaster, Pennsylvania area. 3) Lightshine Metal Concerts brings in Christian Metal bands to the Lancaster area for ministry. 4)

****I understand you have been offered deals by labels and you have turned them down. Why?**

"I believe every Christian band starts out with good intentions of using their gifts for God, but later they can lose that original vision and fall to the temptation of compromise. I believe it is quite clear that Christian Metal cannot expect to operate the same as the secular Metal industry. Obviously the Bible speaks very clearly to this issue. Jesus said if we follow Him and obey His command to go into the world and make disciples, the world would hate us! If the world hates us, they're not going to buy our products. Why are so many good Christian bands in debt? Because they set their sights on the same goals as the secular bands. In doing so they get discouraged when they don't sell out shows like secular bands do and soon find themselves in over their heads. The only answers I've heard are either: keep your mouth shut and just play music, or pace yourselves for doing small shows and keeping out of debt. Obviously we have chosen to stay out of debt. We are in this for the long haul.

"I personally believe it is impossible for us to keep the ministry profile we have and be accepted into the secular marketplace. I came to that conclusion based on playing with secular bands and in secular clubs. They don't want to hear it. The secular music industry is not interested in people, they're interested in money. The Christian Metal industry is trying so hard to impress the world with how good our music is that they lose sight of the heart of God, which is evangelism. Is that statement too bold? I don't think so. I grew up on Keith Green and Resurrection Band. The big thing back then in the early 80's was ministry. I sat

The Associate Band Program represents other Christian Metal bands in our magazine that we feel God is using in powerful on and off-stage ministry. We realized that many other bands could benefit from a solid follow-up ministry, so we decided to help other bands besides us."

and grew as bands like Fireworks and Petra constantly challenged me in my faith. The big worry back then was that, although the message was great, the music lacked the quality needed to impact the world. I even thought that way. Problems started when bands started to appear throughout the 80's that got better and better musically, but spent less time challenging their audience spiritually.

"Ask any major Christian promoter who they would recommend as a powerful Christian Metal band who would minister effectively and operate as a professional band as well. You could probably count them on one hand. That's a disgrace! But what about the hundreds of bands out there who want to be used by God? If they really want to minister, they have to spend just as much time building their ministry as they take to build their band. The problem with labels is they are eager to sign new bands who want to "make it" and meanwhile, those innocent musicians are setting themselves up for a ride that will probably take them through a long period of disillusionment.

"Ministry is not screaming, 'Jesus loves you!' Ministry is a mindset. It is love for people. It is serving and not expecting anything in return. It is hours with God listening for His voice. It is simply sharing with every audience what God told you to tell them. It is feeling the pleasure of God on stage. It is playing and teaching every time as if it were your last. Did you notice that ministry described here has no thought of money?

"Well, to answer your original question, we feel that our philosophy of music and ministry does not agree with the philosophy of the labels we have considered. If any label expects us to make them money, they better go get somebody else. As long as Lightshine International Ministries can handle the workload, Sardonyx will continue to remain regional, solid and out of debt."

****How do you feel about a band saying, "I'm not called to preach?"**

"Quite honestly, they better read their Bible. I realize that 1 Corinthians 12 teaches that we all have different spiritual gifts and, therefore, just because four guys are up on stage doesn't mean one of them has the gift of preaching or teaching. That's not the issue. When I hear anyone say, 'I'm not called to preach,' I believe they should say, 'I have never been trained to preach.' Let's face it, we're all lazy to a degree. We take lessons for music. Why aren't Christian Metal musicians spending time in Bible school? I'll tell you why. The industry has such a low standard for spirituality that new Christians and even unbelievers are placed in the spotlight.

"I was a Sr. High youth leader at my church for five years before we started Sardonyx and Lightshine. One thing I learned was how my kids' unsaved friends affected them. If enough people say the same thing over a period of time, everyone starts to believe it's true, even if it is totally against Scripture. This kind of relativism is thriving in Christian Metal today. I read an interview where a guy

said there is no such thing as a Christian band. I've heard that so many times. The problem is, I hear younger bands saying the same thing. This guy said, 'if some secular band gets a Buddhist singer, does that make them a Buddhist band?' My answer is: if the band is made up of Buddhist musicians and they are obeying Buddha, they are a Buddhist band.' Bottom line here is: Sardonyx is a Christian band. In fact, let's start something new: Sardonyx is an Evangelical Metal band. We realize our ministry is not to just teach the unsaved about Jesus. We take very seriously the ministry we have to our brothers and sisters in Christ who look up to us. We say, 'Hold strong to your faith in Christ and pray with us as we together obey His command to make disciples in this powerful style of music!'"

****What is your opinion on the effectiveness of club dates and "seed-planting?"**

"We will play anywhere. We have played in both Christian and unsaved atmospheres. God told us in His Word that evangelism sometimes takes on different responsibilities. Sometimes you plant seeds, sometimes you water the seeds someone else planted and sometimes you have the privilege to harvest and lead someone to the Lord. Nowhere in Scripture does He ever say that an individual should always plant seeds and never anything else. There are times when Sardonyx is playing out where we feel very strongly to keep the message light. There are lots of reasons why. In a club situation, people come to have fun, not think about their eternal destiny. It is important that they understand who you are and Who you live for. Too many bands feel seed-planting is not saying anything and letting their lyrics speak. The problem is, a lot of the bands who say that write lyrics which are so vague that the message is lost. They then turn around and label themselves a 'seed-planting' band. Seed-planting should be a part of any ministry, but it cannot be the only focus.

"Another problem needs to be addressed. I hear too many bands saying, 'You have to get into the secular music scene in order to really evangelize. I don't want to play to Christian audiences. They've heard it all before!' I don't think there's a lot of wisdom in that philosophy. Our observation is that playing in clubs provides a very harsh atmosphere for ministry, especially in a Thrash venue. They want music to mosh to. They don't want someone talking between songs. On the other hand, Christian Metal shows still bring in a lot of unsaved kids and a lot of rebellious Christian kids who have lots of questions about what they've been taught all these years. My observation is that unsaved kids are more open to the Gospel in Christian venues, because they know it's coming. Christian kids bring their friends and these kids stand out there and want you to tell them what makes you tick. Meanwhile, the Christian kids are out there saying, 'If someone doesn't show me some answers quick, I'm going to leave my church.' The tragedy is, some Christian bands aren't interested in playing these shows!"

****How do you plan to structure your finances and support Sardonyx?**

"Lightshine International Ministries is waiting for our approval from the IRS as a non-profit ministry. Our paperwork has been filed with them and, as soon as we are licensed as a legal non-profit ministry, we can give a tax deduction for any donations that are given to Lightshine. Sardonyx is the music ministry of Lightshine. As of now, Sardonyx works as volunteers along with the other staff volunteers in Lightshine. This ministry is run in the evenings and on weekends. The musicians in Sardonyx are all married and we have five kids between us. Obviously, we have a responsibility to our families. As we grow, the ministry will probably be able to pay some of the staff to work full-time. This might include some of the staff that work with the band.

"Hold strong to your faith in Christ and pray with us as we together obey His command to make disciples in this powerful style of music."

"We rely on revenue received from our shows, merchandise sales and donations. We are no different from any other Christian band, except we are under a non-profit ministry. We hope to work with a distribution company to get our products out to Christian bookstores nationwide or people can buy the products through Lightshine Metal Magazine or at our shows. Our goal is to pay off the new project and make it available to youth pastors and other youth ministers at a reduced rate. The bottom line is staying out of debt and controlling our products. We also plan to continue to speak in local churches and radio shows to build credibility for Lightshine. I must admit, this music scene is really scary sometimes."

****Any final comments on the Christian music industry?**

"I don't believe the industry knows where it's going. Really! Therefore, too many young Christian musicians are going to get discouraged. My advice to other musicians is this: Don't make getting signed your goal. Develop a business mindset as well as a thirst for God and His pleasure. Don't worry about trying to be like the secular musician. Don't fear getting married or having kids. God uses men and women who can't think of anything else but ministry. Ask yourself what you would do if God took your hands, or feet or voice away. If you would still be interested in ministry, then

you know your heart is right with Him. God doesn't need Heavy Metal to speak to man. He uses it, but he needs the life and dreams of the musician first. What will happen to the Christian music industry? God will soon show us!"

****What do you feel God wants to do with Metal music?**

"I believe Metal is absolutely the most powerful music today to teach the power and majesty of God. I believe He is going to refine it. He wants bands to use Metal skillfully. Even Christian Metal abuses the power. Christian kids are getting ticked off at their parents and going into their rooms and blasting Christian Thrash. The release--or should I say the drug--that secular Metal becomes to deal with anger and hate cannot be mirrored in Christian Metal. God wants Christian musicians to seek Him as to how they can use music as a whole to proclaim the whole Word of God. Then He wants solid ministries backing up these bands. Christian musicians shouldn't complain about churches not backing them. If their calling is obvious and their ministry is evident, their fruit will silence the critics and support will be on the way."

****What do you hope to see more bands doing?**

"Waiting. That's the hardest, but most important part about being a Christian. Too many bands are going out before God tells them to. Someone said once that if the Holy Spirit left the church today, many churches would continue on as they are now. Let's not let that happen in Christian Metal. If God is making you wait, don't get discouraged. Remember Jesus waited 30 years for three years of ministry. You're never too old for ministry even in professional music. God knows your heart and He wants you to trust Him!"

****When is the album coming out?**

"'MAJESTIC SERENITY' should be out in early June through Lightshine Metal Magazine and hopefully through a national distributor by August. Make sure you ask your local Christian bookstore to order 'MAJESTIC SERENITY.' The SPCN number is 7901840021. It will be available on cassette and CD and is designed to be a powerful ministry piece. Every song has tons of Scripture and is perfect for daily Bible study. It will be perfect to give to an unsaved friend. There is no possible way anyone could listen to this album and not get a clear message."

****Anything you want to add?**

"Make sure you call or write to get Lightshine Metal Magazine. It goes to 38 different countries and deals with some pretty bold issues. It also represents our brothers in the band Sacrament. Their new album will be out soon, too, so check them out.

Write to: Lightshine International Ministries at: PO Box 456, Paradise, PA 17562, or call us at 717-397-7217 to get on the mailing list." To book Sardonyx, call Rod at 717-463-3116. **HM**

one bad pig: working hard to have fun

The Pig-meisters! Pig-o-rama! Pig-Men-Tation. That office guy on Saturday Nite Live would have a field day with Christian music's popular punksters, affectionately known as The Pig. These guys have actually been around for seven whole years. It doesn't seem possible that we're all getting that old already, does it?

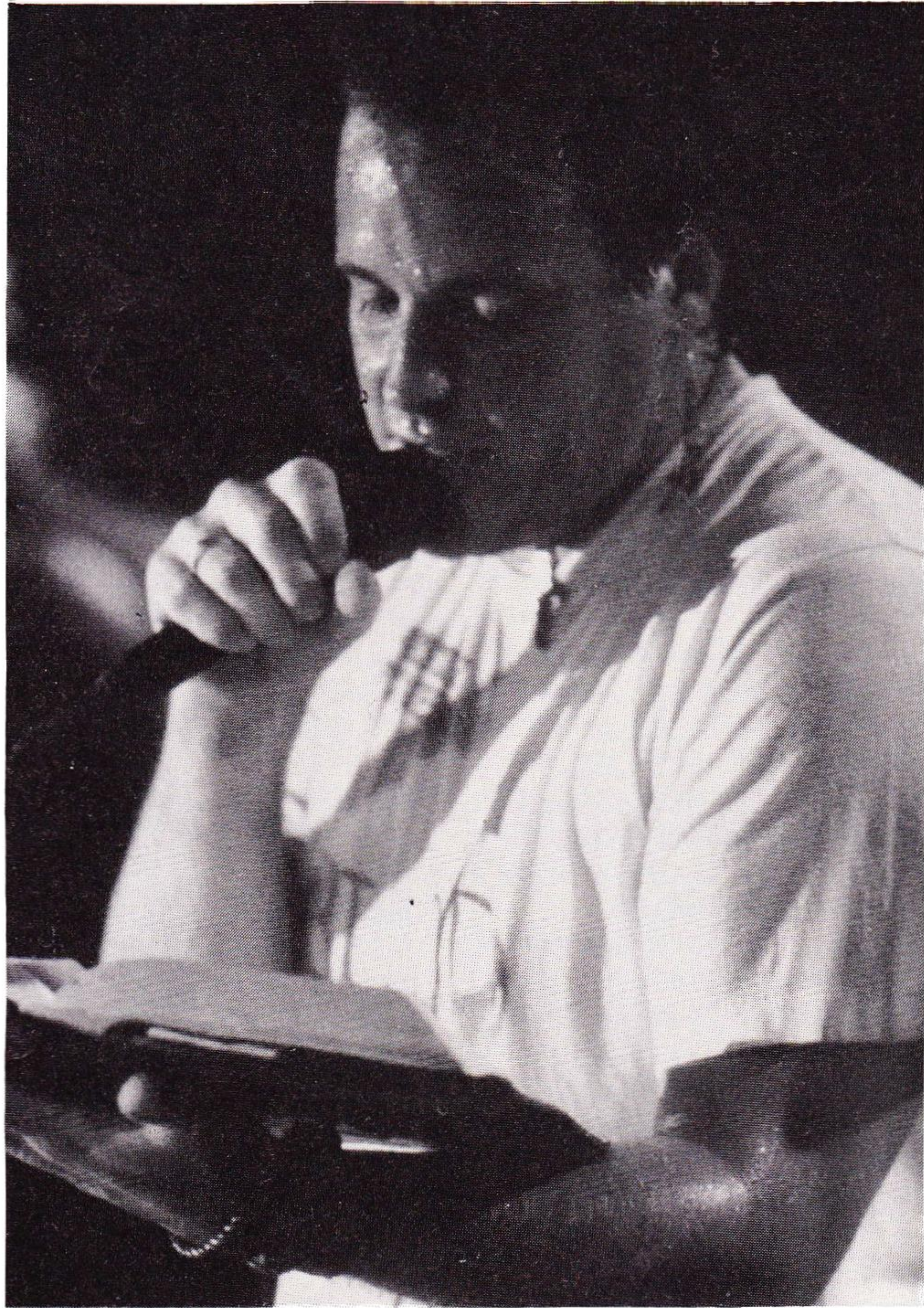
I happened to be doing some Rock music seminars in Austin, Texas over the Labor Day holiday back in 1985, when someone took me to an outdoor Christian music festival. The very last act on the bill was called One Bad Pig. As soon as the band started, some kid dressed in an old army jacket and a huge chain came screaming down the hill, ranting and raving that the Pig was his favorite band in the whole world. He threw himself on the stage, and did an Anthrax epileptic fit ("Wake Up Dead" dude!). Then he jumped up, grabbed the mike from the guitarist, and started screaming his lungs out. I thought this was carrying fan appreciation a little too far, until I realized that this guy actually was the lead singer.

I talked to Kosher (Carey Womack) right after that concert and found out that the screaming kid was a licensed Baptist minister who worked in a mental institution for a day job. How appropriate! At the time, I thought the Pig had been a local favorite for awhile. But recently I realized I had actually witnessed the Pig's very first performance. At that point, they had only intended it to be a one-shot joke, but the reaction from fans was so overwhelming, they just kept doing it. So it turns out I was there to see history in the making, and I've been history ever since.

"We recognized that the Pig was not our number one priority anymore, our families were."

Recently, the Pig-meisters have made a bit of history available to their fans via a live album and video called "LIVE: BLOW THE HOUSE DOWN." The scenic footage was taped at their Cornerstone concert in the summer of 1991. From the kiddie pool full of whipped cream on "I Scream Sunday" to the heartbreaking confession of "Isaiah 6," this tape really represents a Pig at their best. If you never get to go to Cornerstone or see the Pig live, this tape is definitely the next best thing to being there.

"I think the video represents the Pig pretty well," lead pig-picker (that's a guitar



Kosher preachin' the Word

player for you laymen) Paul Q-Pek told me. "This album kind of chronicles the last seven years of the Pig's musical career. And the elements that make a live Pig show work are all there: the fun that we like to have in concert, the audience involvement, and the ministry that we do, where we really preach up front and glorify Jesus. That's what the Pig does and that comes off pretty well on the video."

But it's not as easy as it looks. "Having fun is very, very hard work," says Paul. "When you come to a Pig concert, people know that it's going to be a party. But we've got to be the host of this party every night, and we've got to be ready to throw this wham, bang event at every concert. To be able to do that takes a lot of planning and preparation and a willingness to say, 'Tonight I'm going to go out there and work really hard to show these kids a good time.'"

However, there were those who thought the party was over at Cornerstone last year. The rumors were flying that people were seeing the last great Pig concert. Fortunately for us, things didn't turn out that way.

"You have to understand that when we started the Pig, we were four single guys," Paul explains. "Now all of us are married and three of us have kids." Paul has a five year old daughter named Evangeline and his wife Kira has another one on the way. Carey's wife is also expecting--both kids are due in November.

Family has changed the Pigster's approach to ministry.

"What happened was that we took a break for our families," Paul continued. "Carey and Phillip each had their first child last fall, and we took a break until around Thanksgiving. Then we got back together to see what God was telling us about the ministry. We've always had the philosophy that when God says 'Stop,' we'll stop then and there. We sat down with our pastors to see where we were. We recognized that the Pig was not our number one priority any more, our families were.

"What we decided to do was to keep it together on a limited basis. We went back to our booking agents and gave them a set number of concert dates that we could do. It turned out that they had such an incredible waiting list for us, by the next day they had all our dates filled for 1992. So, now we are able to keep our jobs and stay with our families and attend to things at home. Then we go on the road just on certain weekends to get together for fun and ministry--kind of like a men's fishing trip," Paul laughs.

Another change that contributed to this situation in the structure of Pig ministry is that Paul moved from Austin to Nashville last year. He moved to the hub of the Christian music industry in an effort to find a way into the music business full time. Since moving he

They're loose again!
And this time it's LIVE,
unbridled mayhem.
In their most daring
release yet, One Bad
Pig begs the question,
why just shake the
house, when you can blow
the house down?!

On stage screaming, stomping, slam
dancing, stage diving, pleading and
praying. It's the absolute wildest
Christian concert ever recorded, and
we've captured every wallowing,
squealing moment on video!

■ FILMED LIVE AT
CORNERSTONE FESTIVAL
■ VOTED "BEST LIVE BAND" FOR 1991
AND 1992 IN HEAVEN'S METAL
READER'S POLL
■ AVAILABLE EVERYWHERE ON
-VHS VIDEO
-COMPACT DISCS
-HIGH QUALITY CASSETTES

ONE BAD PIG

BLOW
LIT THE
HOUSE
DOWN!!



MYRRH
Music You Can't Turn Down!

went on the road with DeGarmo & Key selling T-shirts for them. Paul worked for ForeFront Records and for Pure Metal/Star Song for a while as well. Paul is now handling change working at a bank, waiting for the right opportunities to open up.

Actually, nobody in the Pig is making a full-time living from the music. (In fact, hardly anyone in Christian Metal is making a full-time living just from touring and records. So much for becoming rich and famous.) Lead squealer Carey Womack is working to become a full-time pastor for his church in Austin. Drummer Phillip Owens owns a landscaping business called Cutting Edge Lawn Care Service. And bass player Daniel Tucek works at a metal engraving shop when he's not on the road. How appropriate!

The Pig is just taking things one step at a time. There will be another album, but there are no immediate recording plans. They are going to be doing a lot of festivals this summer, but Cornerstone won't be one. They've done Cornerstone for three years in a row and are ready to tackle some new territory. They'll be hitting the Creation Festival in Pennsylvania in June and going to Canada for the first time in September, as well as some of their favorite concert spots in Minnesota and Ohio.

Paul Q-Pek is also working on a solo album that will be particularly unPig-like. Paul describes it as a passionate, dramatic keyboard driven sound, along the lines of Peter Gabriel.

Eventually, Paul would like to take his music out on the road as a performance art group, with a multi-media presentation, including drama and dance. Sounds intriguing!

So the Pig is alive and well, getting their priorities together and delivering a variety of product to please a lot of people. In closing our interview, Paul felt it was important to leave a reminder to all the little piglets out there:

"I just want to tell the Pig fans that we really, really do appreciate them. There are kids who drive eight or nine hours to see us in concert. That's just amazing to us that kids would do that. It's amazing to us when we hear young bands doing cover tunes of Pig songs. That's wild! We're not major Rock stars or anything. We're just fans too. We get excited when our favorite groups put out a new album or when they come to our town, too. So we really appreciate it to know how excited some of our fans get about our stuff. You know, we're all in this together. There's no separation between us.

"I just hope that we're able to remain faithful with some spiritual integrity for our fans out there. We know that when we're up on that stage we become like teachers and examples for many fans. We hope that we've been responsible to that position and that our fans can count on us that we're really trying to follow God with real integrity." And all the oinksters said: Amen!

HM

--David S. Hart

METAL RADIO CHART

Here are the TOP 15 METAL SINGLES (reprinted courtesy The CCM Update) as of June 1st:

- 1 More Faith Than Me
Betrayal
- 2 Temple's on Fire
Sacred Warrior
- 3 Exit (Euthanasia)
Ransom
- 4 Painted Truth
Die Happy
- 5 Virtue and Vice
Holy Soldier
- 6 Take a Look at Yourself
One Bad Pig
- 7 So-Called Living, 1991
The Crucified
- 8 Kiss the Train
Bride
- 9 Psycho Surgery
Tourniquet
- 10 Zeptune
Dig Hay Zoose
- 11 Never Again
Crashdog
- 12 Prophet of Idiocy
Deliverance
- 13 Internal Unrest
Living Sacrifice
- 14 Farewell to Human Cries
Seventh Angel
- 15 Bishop of Souls
Vengeance Rising

HM

MORTIFICATION'S DEATH METAL ASSAULT

We find Mortification in the middle of a four-leg tour of the band's Australian homeland, where the band talks about its new album, **SCROLLS OF THE MEGILLOTH**, and how its audiences have responded at concerts. Listen in as our bro's from down under share their gift of gab.

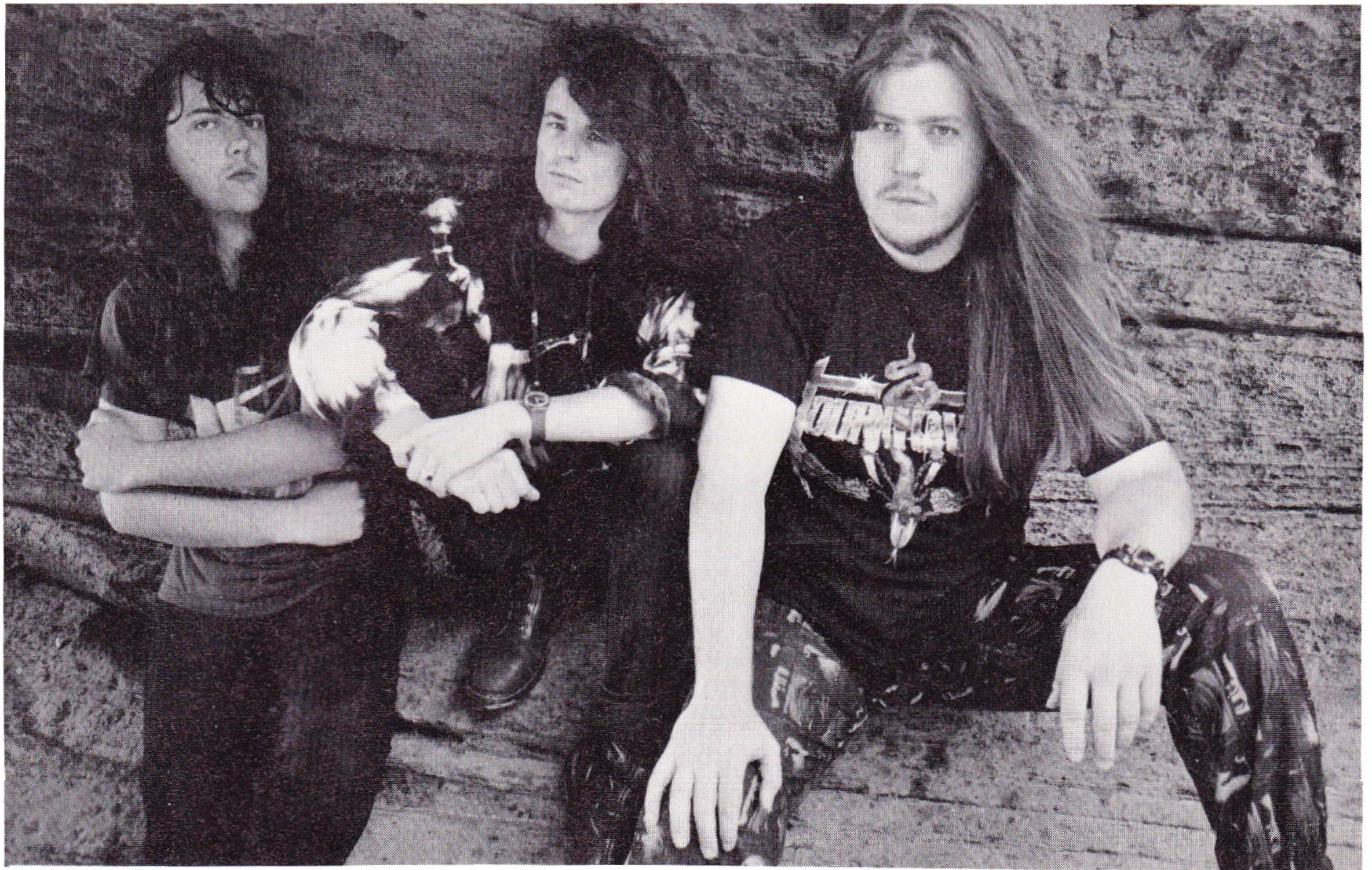
****Tell us about the new album.**

"As I said before," explains bassist Steve Rowe, "our producer, Doug Sanders, decided to give us tons of more time in the studio for free, because he believed in the songs and knew he could do so much more with 'em if given the time.

"The first song, 'Nocturnal,' is basically about our being nocturnal creatures, going into the clubs and pubs and playing at around two a.m. and spreading the Light in a very dark place. It's pretty confrontational with the spiritual world. We know the evil that we're coming up against, and the lyrics speak of coming up against that evil and having victory; and not just going in there to play, but going in there to win and plundering Hell and populating Heaven. I sorta combined that with a very interesting intro of nocturnal sounds. You'll close your eyes and it'll sound like you're in a swamp.

"**'Terminate Damnation'** is a classic example of where the band's coming from musically at this time. With the first album, people placed us in the Death Metal/Grindcore category, which wasn't exactly true for the time that we were writing those songs, which was more of a Thrash sort of vein, like the band Sodom... It was only really 12 months ago that we started being more and more kosher with the Death and Grind scene. I think you can really see that sort of influence coming in this song. There's lots of blast beating, which is the classic Grindcore style and also the Death Metal--slow and very somber--dooming sounds.

"Lyrically it speaks about something the band obviously stands very strongly for. One thing we are trying to alert people about is the reality of afterlife and the fact that there is a Heaven and a Hell, and damnation is something that all the people out there don't want to be involved in. Obviously this song gives the basic message of victory through Christ and that it's the way to Heaven. Jayson has basically penned the whole philosophy of the band: 'Hey people, eternity is real, with or without God, and this is the Way to spend eternity in Heaven.



Michael, Steve & Jayson

"**'Raise the Chalice'** is very interesting musically. Most of the album is very aggressive Death Metal and Grindcore, and what I deliberately did with this tune was to write a song based around bass guitar and do things with the bass guitar that hadn't been done before, like have a very long bass bridge and also have Grindcore blast beats just with the bass guitar playing. I've never heard another band do that. It's got a very happy feel to it and I guess it's slightly more accessible than some of the other tunes on the album.

"One thing we're going to try and do in the future is be a little bit more technical, which you see in this song with some of the starts and stops. We also want to use a lot more harmony and melody in the future.

"Lyrically, it's just a celebration of communion. It brings Christ's death and what He's done for us on the cross and the attitude that we should have towards remembering that. As Christians we should partake of that in a very holy and reverent way. It's also a warning about people that mock the communion and Christ's death.

"**'Lymphosarcoma'** is a type of cancer that my brother had," explains Steve. "He's now 21 years old. When he was 10 he was diagnosed with having leukemia and having lymphosarcoma. As you know, leukemia is total body blood cancer, and lymphosarcoma is cancer of the lymphatic system, which also meant that he had a tumor covering one and a half of his lungs. We were told he was probably going to die in less than eight years--if he got through the treatment. We immediately went into setting off a prayer chain all around the world with all different denominations. We saw through a chain of prayer that this cancer

was broken over Angus' life and he was healed.

"18 months into the chemotherapy treatment my mother and father believed that God had healed Angus and didn't want to see him go through this hideous pain anymore. He'd lost all his hair, his skin was peeling off and he was very sick and vomiting all the time. The response to them wanting to take him off the treatment from the children's hospital was that, if Mom and Dad took him off the treatment, he would be made a ward of the state and Mom and Dad would not be allowed to have access to him. They would take Mom and Dad to court and would make sure that Angus saw through the treatment. We didn't know how to respond to that, whether this was the devil's answer or not, or just man's answer. We decided it was man's answer and Angus had to go through the three years of treatment. He got through the treatment and, for 10 years or so later, there's no trace that he's ever had the cancer and he's been totally healed by God.

"Musically I tried to develop a bit of a mood swing between sickness and victory. At the end it's real lifting. As we hear the heartbeat again at the end of the song, it's a sign that Angus is still living on.

"**'Scrolls of the Megilloth'** is basically the concept song behind the whole album. I was doing Bible College last year, as many people know, and we were studying a course called the 'Old Testament Survey,' where we studied all the Old Testament books. I realized at the time that myself, and many other Christians, don't know or read a lot of the Old Testament. We read in II Timothy 3:16 that all scripture is useful for building us up and admonishing us and all that sort of thing. I realized that we as Christians need to

read the whole Word of God.

"We studied the books called 'The Scrolls of the Megilloth,' which are: Song of Solomon, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Ruth and Lamentations. I realized with most of those books that I didn't even know what they were about; let alone have any sort of teaching or nourishment from them for my spiritual life, so I checked them out and found a lot in them.

"I spoke to Jayson and Michael about the concept of the next album and we came up with the album cover. It's got the five scrolls in a cave with cobwebs on 'em, which is symbolic of the fact that a lot of the Word of God is not being read by Christians and it's just put away in a cave. The skeleton underneath the scrolls is symbolic of part of the Christian's life being spiritually dead, because they're not getting nourished from the whole Word of God.

"What I've done with the verses in the song is give a basic teaching on each book and hopefully wet the appetite of the listeners to looking into the books further and finding what they're about. I've done some extensive studies on all the books, so if any of the people reading this want to write to me, I can send you the 'Scrolls of the Megilloth' study if you wish to get that." (Please send \$4 for postage and printing to: PO Box 339, Mentone, Vic. 3194, Australia)

****How is the current tour going?**

"Very interesting so far," says Steve. "The Adelaide leg of the tour is probably the most memorable so far. We had a pretty good turnout: about 170 the first night and 260 the next. We saw tons of drug and alcohol abuse at the club date we did there. I think the devil was having a field day with all of the people there. I think the Lord was trying to knock sense into one of the young headbangers there. During the first band's set some guy that was paralytic drunk dove off the stage and landed on his head. He was kinda dazed and almost unconscious for a while and we were sort of kneeling down next to him and praying for him and a bit concerned about the bloke.

"He eventually came to watched us play--and we actually played one of the best concerts we ever had. I think I was pretty bold in the things I said for a club gig. We have to be very careful when we play in a club sometimes, because we have not been invited back to one or two clubs because of some of the things I said back in the Lightforce days. Anyway, what I said must've had an impact on him, because the next night I was speaking at a conference that a church was holding down there and I was talking about Metal ministry and about the 'Metal Kingdom' youth groups that I run and I also gave an appeal for the people to give their life to Christ and he put his hand up and I led him to Christ. It's great to see the ministry working in that way. He's really going on fire for God now and is part of the Metal Kingdom youth group down in Adelaide. We also had about 20 Christians come up for a re-commitment to the Lord to go into full-on evangelical work. It was really good.

"We had Dave Palmer of Rosanna's Raiders come out and speak at both of the concerts on the Melbourne part of the tour, where

he gave an appeal for salvation at the end.

He's a very dynamic speaker. In Jalome, which is very infamous for having a lot of street-type people and is also one of the main areas where there's a height of satanic activity, everybody was moshing crazily and stage diving everywhere while we were playing. When Dave came out to speak, about two-thirds of the crowd walked out. It just goes to show the hard hearts in the scene that we're reaching out to.

"Dave Palmer has seen 20 first-time decisions at many Rosanna's Raiders concerts, and I believe that we're going to see that in the future as well, but we know we're dealing with intense bondage that Satan has got a lot of these young kids into. We just really praise God that the Lord's chosen us and called us to be the first Christian Grind/Death Metal band, because there's such a need out there to see people saved.

"We're going to play this weekend to play live on radio. Early next week we'll be doing a brand new concept video for the song '**Raise the Chalice**' and also be doing a couple of new live videos. As I said before, people can look out for the new Mortification compilation video, which we're hoping Intense will release. It will have Mortification clips off the first and second albums and some interview footage. It will probably be called '**GRIND PLANETS**.'"

****If you could make any impact on the Death Metal realm, what would it be?**

"The impact that we want to make is we wanna see people saved," says Steve.

"That's what we're in this for. We really enjoy the music. I mean, Jayson and I were sitting in the back seat together and talking about what we're going to be doing in the future with music and we're hoping to progress and get our music better and better, but that's always secondary to our message. We wanna see people saved.

"The reactions have been pretty mixed at the moment from the crowd and the people buying our albums. Generally, people are really, really digging what we're doing. A lot of people really aren't sure of the message, but most of them are listening. I've noticed that people walking out when I've been speaking at our concerts has been the exception, not the rule. Normally people will give the reaction that they're thinking about what you're saying, like looking at the ground and taking it in. I'm sure that people are going to be going home and thinking about what happens when they die. If people don't wanna get saved, we just want people to think about it and they'll have no excuse on judgement day. So, obviously the intent is to see people get saved, but at the very least to let people know about Christ and salvation through Him.

"It's amazing how many people out there, especially in the Grindcore and Death thing, don't even think about the afterlife and haven't had any contact with any sort of church. We're just going out there to let them know what Christ is all about and how salvation is obtained through receiving Him as your Savior."

****What's your response to the question: "How does the gory/death-related artwork glorify Jesus?"**

"What I could answer straight away," says drummer Jayson Sherlock, "is that the part of our first album cover was to present a spiritual truth. We believe that, if God would honor something, then He would bless it greatly in ministry value and it'd definitely be something that creates a result. Basically, if a person sees the cover, reads the scripture reference and realizes that he needs to recommit himself to God's purpose, then Jesus is glorified. We'd like to present that not all album covers need to be gory. The next album cover is definitely not gory."

"In addition to that," adds gab-meister Steve Rowe, "I think that people need to realize that we have to relate to the people that enjoy our music. Our albums are not for the grandmother that walks into the Christian music store, even though we don't want to freak her out at the same time. If there's Christians who are into this music--or especially the secular guys--we need to have an album cover that relates to those people and something that they will enjoy.

"We've had quite a time of discussion after there was such controversy with the first album cover. Our goal was coming up with something that still looks really full-on and suits the genre of music; yet is not offensive to people, because we don't want to offend. I'm sure we will go on in the vein of our second album cover: trying to think of something intelligent to do with the cover. It's really, really good that Jayson is an artist and we're able to work within the band framework in every artistic area. Jayson did the artwork for '**SCROLLS**' and will definitely be doing all the covers for the future albums. So, we've got total control over where we're headed and what we wanna say with those statements."

****What are your future plans?**

"The first one," says Steve, "is that the record company is presenting our album to Metal Blade Records. We're just leaving it up to the Lord to open the door for a secular release deal, because we need to get our albums more and more into the secular market. We really, really appreciate what Intense is doing. They're a fantastic label and my dream has always been to sign to a Christian label for ministry support for the lyrics, but also to get major distribution to the secular chains.

"It's very interesting how the Lord has opened the doors for us. I did an interview when I was in Lightforce and the bloke doing the interview asked me what my future vision was and I said that we 'hoped to get signed to Pure Metal Records, Frontline Records or even the secular label Metal Blade.' Those of you who know the history of where I've been know that Lightforce was signed to Pure Metal and now, of course, we're signed to Intense. So, who knows? It seems that two-thirds of what I said in 1987 was prophetic. I mentioned Metal Blade at the time, so it's going to be interesting if we get the Metal Blade deal as well.

"Also, we're planning to tour the U.S. soon if our visas come through. Please pray for us, because we definitely want to come to America as the Lord opens the doors." HM

what primus sez:

This issue's "What so and so sez" section brings us the popular "Alterno-Metal" band Primus, who were chosen as the opening act for Rush's latest tour. Listen in as guitarist Larry Lalonde speaks his mind.

****How is the tour with Rush going?**

"It's pretty cool. It's like big, giant, sold-out places. It's cool playing with Rush, too. That was my first concert--Rush. It was kind of a trip to actually talk to 'em. I see them on backs of album covers."

****How do you feel about the widespread acceptance of what I call "alterno-metal" with bands like Nirvana, Sound Garden and you guys all doing well?**

"It's pretty weird, definitely. When I first got in the band I didn't think anybody would ever get into it but a really small level, so I'm kinda surprised. But it's cool to see the top 10 bands like Metallica and Nirvana. It's a lot different than it used to be, like with bands like U2 and Roxette."

****How is life different for you as a result?**

"I guess I don't get to be at home as much. That's about it."

****How do you guys go about writing your music?**

"Mostly it's just like in sound check, where we have the tape recorder going on and we'll be playing. We rehearse like maybe twice a year. We don't really sit around and write songs as much as we just jam together with the tape recorder on. Sometimes good things come out, but most of the times [bleep] things come out (laughs). That's pretty much the way we write."

****How does it evolve from that to what we hear on the album?**

"Mostly we'll pick out what's good out of it and try to arrange it somewhat. If Les has lyrics that'll fit over something, we'll try to fit 'em in or whatever. A lot of things are actually where we'll just go into the studio and play. A lot of things turn out that way. It's pretty much off the top of our head."

****Who are your guy's influences?**

"Between the three of us, pretty much everything. I mean, we probably have every form of music you could think of in our CD collection."

****What kind of backgrounds did you guys come from?**

"Herb was like into the world beat dance thing. Les was into stuff like R&B bands and bar bands. I'm into Metal bands, which pretty much suck, and I like hardcore bands and stuff."



Primus: Tim Alexander, Larry Lalonde, Les Claypool
(Photo: Michael Lavine)

****How would you describe a spiritually healthy person?**

"Ha, ha. You know, that's a good question. I have no idea. I know the kind that are not. I was on the plane with this lawyer, who was telling me how he was going to raise his kids right. The only thing he would touch was alcohol and tobacco, because society had tolerated it for so long and marijuana was the fuse and LSD was the bomb and all this stuff, and I was like, 'Whoa!' I don't often run into people like that. So, I was kinda like blown away by that. I'd say that's a spiritually unhealthy person as far as I can tell by looking at him and what he had to say."

****When I was doing drugs in my life, marijuana, LSD and stuff, I always looked at alcohol as the legalized drug and it was like hypocrisy to consider alcohol not a drug.**

"I agree 100%. Not too many people get in cars and kill people from smoking pot. I'm sure it does happen, but I'd say probably most deaths from drugs and stuff are from alcohol. It's pretty funny. That's why the beer companies donate money to keep pot illegal, to keep their own people."

****If your mind ever sort of gravitates towards thinking about spiritual things, what kind of things do you think about?**

"I don't know. There's not a whole lot of spiritual thinking in this band, I guess. I don't know."

****How significant would you say that Jesus Christ is to you?**

"Ummm. You know, I was never much of a, as far as in that way, a religious person. But, I'm sure in one form or another it exists in some ways."

****Who do you think that Jesus was?**

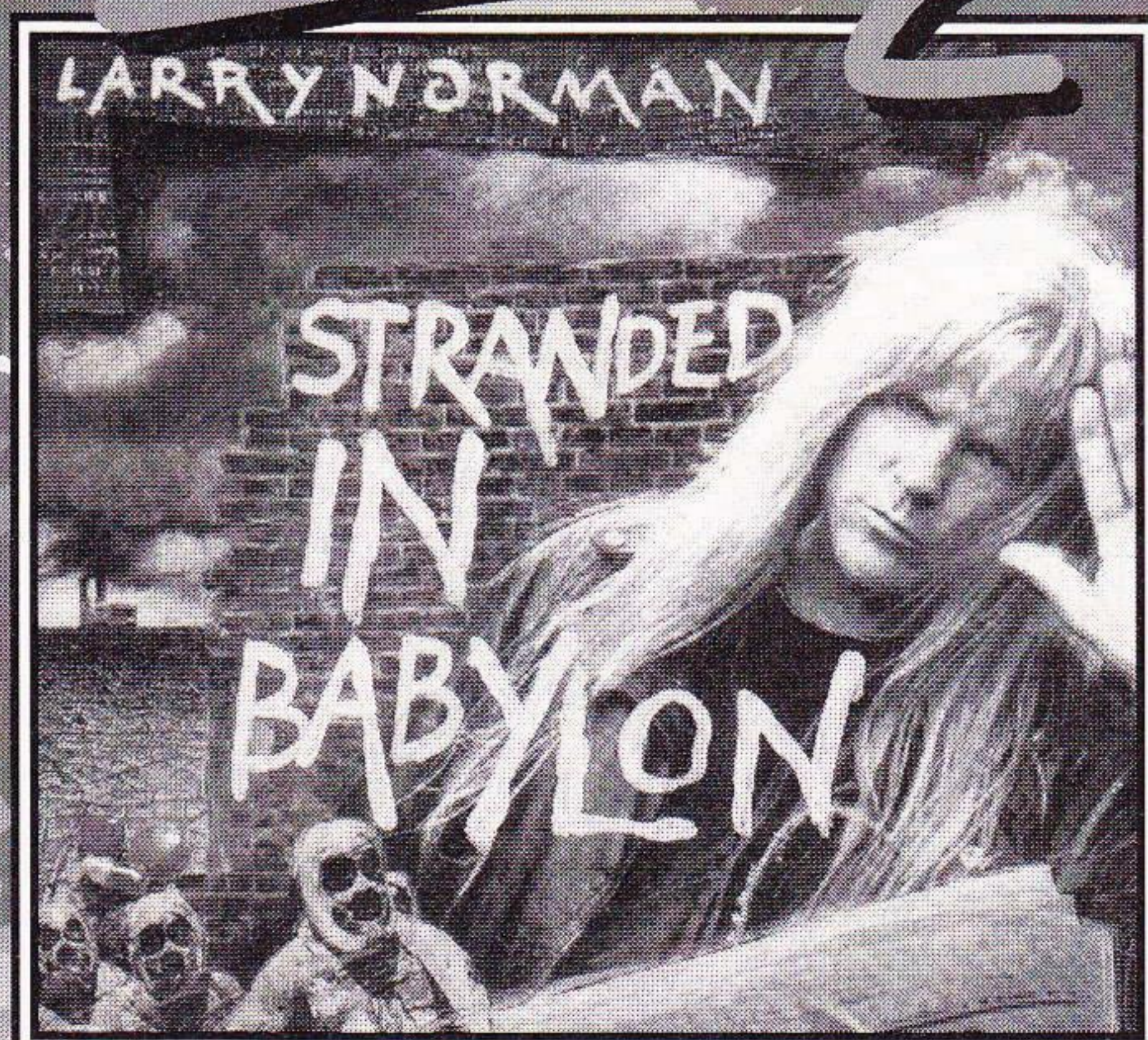
"I don't know. I don't have an opinion on that stuff."

****Here's an interesting question for ya, to play a role model-type imagination: What do you think your life would be like if you were a follower of Christ?**

"I'm sure it would be better than if I was a Satan-worshipping kind of guy, you know? I've known a lot of people that were totally satanic or thought they were satanic-type people. They also thought it was cool to be total losers, but a lot of my family are very religious and stuff like that. It seems to put them in the frame of feeling like they're good people and stuff, as opposed to being loser-types."

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****The people that you've known that thought they were satanists or whatever...Do you think they were like, really out to lunch?**

"I think that they just thought they were rebelling or something, maybe making them cool with somebody or making them just a real rebellious-type person."

****When I was in high school, I used to love to think about death and draw things and I liked to shock people and ten years later this whole Death/Grindcore scene, kinda the whole thing I was into, is popular.**

"It was pretty funny. Most of those people that are into that don't know anything about what they're talking about anyway. They think it makes it sound heavy or cool or something."

****What is your goal or ambition as a musician?**

"Uh, just to hopefully keep getting better and make as much noise as possible. No big goals, as long as it's fun and I keep doing what I want to do and make the music I want. That's all I really want to do."

****I don't know if you've ever heard of Heaven's Metal Magazine. It's a magazine that covers the Christian Heavy Metal/Hard**

Rock scene. I obviously have lots of interviews with bands in that genre, but I also like to step out once in a while in every issue and talk to someone and get their views and where they're coming from and kinda expose different folks to different ideas and kinda see where you're coming from and share with you where I'm coming from kind of deal.

"Yeah, it's cool."

****Has anyone ever, like, approached you and shared with you a pamphlet about the Gospel or ever told you about salvation in Jesus?**

"Nah, not really."

****Really? Have you ever been exposed to the whole Sunday School vibe?**

"Nope. I never did that. A lot of my friends did that."

****A lot of people consider America a Christian nation and yet not everybody isn't really exposed to what Christianity is all about.**

"Oh yeah, I believe that's true."

****Do you have any feelings towards Christianity?**

"Not really. I'm kind of neutral."

****Well, if it's cool, I'd like to share a little bit about kind of what it means to me in kind of a down-to-earth sense. I think Christianity is either one of the all-time worst jokes or it's the greatest thing around. The whole bottom line of it all is that God offers forgiveness to us, and that we don't have to get into this religious, "work our way up to Heaven" vibe and basically just kind of receiving His love just like a relationship with a person and then kind of communicating with Him. If there really is a God, the Creator of the universe, and we can know Him, it's a pretty happenin' thing.**

"Yeah, that's definitely a cooler way of looking at it than what a lot of people try to tell ya (laughs)."

****Yeah, it kinda gets distorted. It's weird. A lot of people build an institution around it. It's really, when you do that, to lose touch with what it's all about. You stop talking to God and you start getting on a power trip... Some people, under the guise of Christianity, are some of the meanest people in the world. It really is a simple thing, and it's very cool. I appreciate being able to share just a tiny little bit of where I'm coming from with ya.**

"Well cool, man. Are you coming to the show tomorrow? You should come and say howdy." HM

METAL TRACKS

Unfortunately, some tragic news tops off our Metal Tracks section this issue: **Bevan Fichtner**, the keyboardist for Canadian rockers **Double Edge**, was hit by lightning and killed on the third day of his honeymoon in Costa Rica. Please pray (and weep with those who weep) for his widow, Jennine. "It is a painful and tragic death," says band member Tim Huff, "but we are all resting deep in the hands of God. Bevan was a great friend and inspiration, and in his memory we will be giving it everything we've got to complete (at last) a polished demo in efforts to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to every ear in range."

The few votes sent in for the belated "Favorite Album Cover" of 1991 category have been tabulated. The most votes went to: **Seventh Angel's** "LAMENT FOR THE WEARY," followed by Mortification's debut album, followed by Vengeance Rising's "DESTRUCTION COMES," followed by the debut by The Galactic Cowboys, followed by Tourniquet's "PSYCHO SURGERY."

Michael Sweet is putting together his new band, which will feature former Surrender drummer **Jamie Wallum** and **Michael Sean Terrell**, who used to play for Mylon (during the "LOOK UP" project) and just returned from Europe playing for **Doro Pesch** of **Warlock**. Michael Sean Terrell had the privilege of leading Doro and two other members of the band to the Lord. In other exciting news, a girl dying of AIDS called his Bible study recently and he prayed with her and told her that "the Lord is healing you right now." She went and test after test done, which confirmed her complete healing from "total" AIDS, Hepatitis B, herpes and cancer instantly! Mr. Terrell, Mr. Wallum and Mr. Sweet are looking for a bassist and are talking to labels. Interested bassists (who have "the look" and the skill) send demos to: M. Sweet, PO Box 2324, Fullerton CA 92633.

Bloodgood has a new drummer--Paul Roraback, who used to be in Paragon. The band has been using him on the several Northwest dates, one of which was for 17-year old named Jayson, who has terminal MS. The band set up in his living room and played an "unplugged" set and took requests from Jayson, who had all his Bloodgood tapes on his chest. He'd pick one up and say, "How about, uh, 'Top of the Mountain,'" and the band would play it. Different, huh? A real humbling experience for the band. Jim Palosaari is the new booking agent for Bloodgood, who is housed in Wonderland's Masonic Temple.

Those of you wondering about **Larry Norman's** health may be glad to know he's doing a lot better. His new album, "STRANDED IN BABYLON," is a real return to his creative genius.

X-Sinner is hitting the L.A. club scene pretty heavily and they've also found a church that the band is involved in.

Look for **Novella's** hot air balloon at their summer festival appearances. **Whitecross** is doing lots of "Youth Nights" in different

cities, where they perform live, give testimonies, share on various topics from the stage, as well as one-on-one. It's being very well received by churches. **Bride** is finishing work on its new album, produced by Plinky and tentatively titled "SNAKES IN THE PLAYGROUND." **Escatas** is the name of George Ochoa's new band, with ex-Recon, ex-Deliverance drummer John Gonzales. They're currently holding auditions for guitarist and bassist. Interested parties send video to: G. Ochoa, 6128 Carlos Ave, Los Angeles CA 90028. **Tommy Sims**, ex-**Whiteheart** bassist is now playing live with Bruce Springsteen.

King's X appeared on the Dennis Miller Show recently, which was filmed the night before the L.A. riots broke out. The guys sat in their high-rise hotel room and watched the city burn the next night. Ty, Jerry and Doug also were interviewed on the MTV Headbanger's Ball and also aired the "Black Flag" video. **The Galactic Cowboys**, who are currently touring with King's X, debuted its video for "I'm Not Amused" on the Headbanger's Ball on June 6th. For info on the King's X Official Fan Club, send a self-addressed legal-sized envelope to: PO Box 968, Katy, TX 77492-0968.

New Narrowpath thrashers **The Jesus Freaks** will be on a new sampler available at Cornerstone. The bands chosen to play this year's "New Talent Stage" at C-Stone this year are: **Love Assembly, Hip Dreams, Raspberry Jam, Precious Death, Scapegoat, Mission of Mercy, Stinging Rain, Mellowd Wallflower, Two Pound Planet, The Prayer Chain, Hot Pink Turtle** and **Unveiled**. Will **Larry Farkas** of **Die Happy** be playing guitar in Precious Death's set? This year will see the return of the "Impromptu Stage," which will allow bands to show up and play a 30-minute set. **Lust Control**, who just finished a new album called "WE ARE NOT ASHAMED," will be playing this stage sometime Saturday, July 4th. **Larry Howard's** "Blues Jam" promises to be hot, which will include appearances by **Rex Carroll, Glenn Kaiser** and **Mark Farner**, to name a few.

Larry Dean of **Trytan** has been working on new material under the name "Dean." **Magdallan's** "BIG BANG" was the #10 best-selling album in Christian bookstores during the month of March. **Lanny Cordola** appeared on ABC's "Full House" with special guests The Beach Boys on May 5th. Lanny appeared as guitarist in star John Stamos' on-screen band "Jesse and the Rippers." **Seraiah** is relocating to Nashville this month. R.E.X. Records has inked a new distribution deal with Spring Arbor. They moved their administrative offices in with Wonderland at the Masonic Temple in Elgin, Illinois.

Jackson Guitars are making a guitar specifically for **Dennis Cameron**. He's very popular in Japan and Jackson is now Japanese-owned. Who knows? This may lead to a Dennis Cameron signature guitar model. **Angelica**, along with **Sacred Warrior**, have just

been released in Japan with both English and Japanese lyrics. "Both bands have built up a loyal following among hardcore fans who purchased the albums at import shops," observed MJM Entertainment Group's Mark Joseph. "Angelica is noted for Dennis Cameron's guitar hero status and melodious songwriting." In addition to these two bands, MJM has distributed or arranged Japanese distribution for all four **Whitecross** albums, **Jet Circus** and **Mark Farner**.

Tourniquet played a kick-off concert for the new Denver Sanctuary. The band played with fellow Metal Blade artist **Atheist** on the band's west coast dates. Tourniquet will also be playing at the Milwaukee Metal Fest on July 18th along with **Diecide** and **Morbid Angel**.

Annette Cvengros of **Ordained Fate** is having a baby. **Fighter** is in the studio. **Applehead** will probably open some dates for **The Crucified** on tour. **Jaguar** is still unsigned (unbelievable!) and still cranking out demos. Former **Vandal's** lead vocalist **Stephen Wagers** is planning a project with **Pat Taylor** of **Nobody Special**.

Undercover has a new album finished. Ojo Taylor says he's very happy with it and that it's the first album in a while that didn't have black clouds hanging over it and that there's actually some tunes written in a major key (!). Bob Larson's "Talk-back" show recently aired a live interview with Yours Truly on a show focusing on Metal magazines. **Asight Unseen**, **Undercover** and **Heaven's Metal** want to clear up any misconception due to the mention of Undercover in the recent Asight Unseen article (#35). Heaven's Metal confesses irresponsibility for running singer Jason Lohrke's comments about Undercover without calling Joe Taylor or Undercover first to see if there was any substance in it. Don't let the unsubstantiated claims effect your perception of Undercover's proven and fruitful ministry.

If you flip on Channel Five in Los Angeles for the traffic report, you will see **Rachel Rachel's Jennifer York** up in the helicopter passenger seat high above L.A. in the KTLA Skycam giving the report. **Kreyson** has started its second album, called "CRUSADERS." The record will be available with English lyrics this month. For information on the official U.S.A. Kreyson Fan Club, write: Rich Pruzina, 714 Ravenwood Dr, Smithville NJ 08201.

Despite the shattering after effects of the civil riots in Los Angeles, Ocean Recording artists **Crystavox** had an impressive turnout of die-hard fans for their rescheduled "THE BOTTOM LINE" album release party at The Lighthouse Bible Bookstore in war-torn Long Beach May 16th. **Betrayal** opened for secular thrashers **Entombed** at the Whiskey club in L.A. on May 10th. Wonderland announced its newest musical project: **Under Midnight**, an "aggro-industrial" sound along the lines of groups like **Nine Inch Nails** and

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Ministry, with guitar influences of Metal cross-genre bands Corrosion of Conformity and Prong. The album will feature several vocalists to portray the characters involved in the storyline of the album. **Living Sacrifice** received a very favorable review in a recent issue of Metal Maniacs.

Darrell Mansfield wrote a special song for baseball great Nolan Ryan, which he will perform with the entire California Angels team June 16th at Anaheim Stadium, when the Angels play the Texas Rangers. The performance will be video taped and shown on Diamond Vision at the stadium as part of the ceremony. Pakaderm anxiously awaits the unveiling of a hot new Rock band called **The Brave**, whose debut album is due out late this month. **Seventh Angel's** "LAMENT FOR THE WEARY" is quickly moving up the CMJ "Loud 100 Chart." Currently at #73, it's been on the chart for five weeks.

People really do win with Heaven's Metal contests. A few recent ones were: L.G. Williams of Stockton, California won a box set of "THE HEAVEN'S METAL COLLECTION" from listening to the Heaven's Metal Hotline; David Maples won a cassette copy of Crystavox's "THE BOTTOM LINE" from listening to the HM Hotline; Robbie Miller won the Sacramento contest; Mike Grider of Louisville, Kentucky won the Lanny Cordola autographed guitar contest; and Jason Dyer of Anacortes, Washington won the "Spend a day with Randy Rose as a Heaven's Metal Staff Writer" contest.

Several radio stations will take part in a "HEAVEN'S METAL COLLECTION RADIO SPECIAL," in which they'll play the collection and give away copies of Heaven's Metal over the air. **One Bad Pig's** Paul Q-Pek has been busy lately, playing bass with **Mark Pogue** and rapping with a rap trio called "**Hefty G & The Tone Deaf Crew**." He's also doing a solo set at the Inner-Seeds Festival's "Impromptu Stage." Of course, he will remain with the Pig as well. 30 people were saved at a

recent Pig show in Columbus, Ohio.

Shadow Wings will be playing at the Peavey Shelter Fest in Meridian, Mississippi in late August with tons of secular bands.

Scott Doerfler has left Xalt to minister in other non-related fields and to attend Bible school. After auditioning several people, Xalt has hired Michigan native **Bob Gross** to take over the singing chores. "The band has toured since his arrival," reports guitarist Jim Erdman, "and the audience response has been great." The band is currently at work on a new album that began production in May and will be released sometime in September. Besides working on a new album, Jim Erdman has been busy developing and broadcasting a new Christian music video show called "Video Crossfire" on Fox Network affiliate WSYM Fox 47. It's currently the only video show of its kind playing exclusively Christian videos on a mainstream commercial station. It's now gained a majority viewing audience in its time slot, edging out Late Night with David Letterman, The Dennis Miller Show and even ABC's In Concert 92! They're currently developing a broader market targeting Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Louis. Xalt will be hitting festivals as well as touring this summer.

Craig Erickson, who appeared on Shrapnel Record's "OMINOUS GUITARISTS..." album, has written two lead guitar courses--"Southern Rock I & II" available through "Shrapnel University" mail-order instructional program.

L.O.U.D. will partake in the 3rd annual "Rock Force Summer Music Fest" in Monroe, Ohio on August 29th, with Sacred Warrior headlining. Congratulations to **Robert Kerns** of **Oracle** on the birth of his son Kalab Herley. Star Song and The 700 Club and CBN Radio are launching a national "New Artist Search '92." The two finalists will be flown to appear on CBN. For info, watch the 700 Club, listen to your local radio station or call 1-900-407-8877. Follow-Up Ministries is into promoting unsigned bands. Write: Rt. 2, Box

1898, Glen St. Mary FL 32040. Essential Record Group is a new Christian record company with three different offshoots, ERG Entertainment being the Rock label. For info, write: 4003 Murray Place, Nashville TN 37216.

"in faith and utterance" is a new compilation CD featuring 16 premiere Alternative and Rock artists from the South. It's free with a one-year subscription to Visions of Gray, a monthly Alternative music newsletter. Send \$10 to: MooTown Records, PO Box 724973, Atlanta GA 30339. WMVN AM97 Radio gave away several copies of Heaven's Metal and 300 Christian Metal tapes at a local Skid Row concert, where they had a chance to talk to hundreds of concert attendees. **Todd Scott** and **Tim Tooke** have left **qodesh** and have been replaced by singer/bassist **Kevin Thornton**, who was formerly with **The mosaic moses veil** and **After the Fall**. The band's music is reported to be quite a bit heavier.

Decision-D, the Dutch Death/Thrash band, has completed the recording of their "RAZON DE LA MUERTE" CD. It will be released worldwide via SPV, a German secular label. **Gerard van der Ree** has replaced **Ronald-Jan Kleisen** on bass. The band will tour Europe in September and hopefully America in December.

Graphic artist Mike Bennett, who's advertised several T-shirt designs in past HM's, is making his quality services available to bands for "whatever they can afford." Interested bands write Mike at: 20 Cornwall Dr, Windsor Locks CT 06096; or call 203-627-5180. **20/20 Blind** is a talented melodic Hard Rock band out of Houston, Texas that is putting together its debut album. The few cuts I've heard sound promising. For info, write: Expression Music Group, PO Box 711188, Houston TX 77271-1188. Speaking of hearing bits of new albums...I had a chance to hear one tune off the new **Deliverance** album (which will be called "STAY OF EXECUTION") and dude--it was killer! The Mesa Boogie mega-crunch was there, but this time Jimmy's vocals sound

like David Bowie or something singing on top of this huge wall of sound. It'll be a smokin' album. There's a new Christian Metal band called **Redeemer** from the Palm Springs, California area. For info, write: 7085 Barberry Ave, Yucca Valley CA 92284.

Pastor Fred Z. and Calvary Chapel Marysville, California are sponsoring a 15-band "Day in Your Face" festival on August 15th, featuring **Die Happy**, **Deliverance** and **Tourniquet**.

HM



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ANGELICA "TIME IS ALL IT TAKES"

Intense

After three albums of good ideas, could Angelica be ready to gel as a band and release the perfect album?

Guitar ace Dennis Cameron produced himself a really good guitar sound, as usual, and his playing in "Gotta Get Ready" prepares the listener for the tasteful riffs to come. "Running Wild" has a very cool groove, and though the drums (programmed?) are solid, they don't punch. "Second Chance" pleads for the act of forgiveness to a good Pop melody. The chorus hook is great, with nice BGV's helping out a bunch. "Open Your Mind" is a slammin' tune with a big rockin' vibe and jammin' hook. "Don't Stop" features a pickin' 'n' strummin' acoustic intro for this anthemic tune, featuring a great little solo. This song is my pick for radio success. Van Halen could've used this tune on one of its first three albums. Maybe these lyrics about building your house on a sure foundation will make listeners attracted to this catchy tune think. The title track is another winner, with superb vocal lines written into the chorus.

Vocalist Drew Baca sounds polished and strong.

I wouldn't call it the perfect album, but I'd say that it succeeds where the other three have failed, in that some of the songs sound like they have real lasting power.

They've got the well-rounded structure that makes ya wanna hear 'em again and again.

--DV

MORTIFICATION "SCROLLS OF THE MEGILLOTH"

Intense

"Nocturnal" starts off this #2 release from Mortification with all the double-bass and driving rhythm section that Vengeance kicked out with tunes like "The Abyss." This stuff is so heavy! Fans of the gnarly end of Metal will eat up this slab of thick, meaty Death Metal. What's really cool about this song is it keeps building in intensity, almost throws you off a cliff, and then takes you there again, and again.

"Terminate Damnation" continues at the killer intensity level, with all guns blazing. It's amazing how much sound and power is coming out of this trio. It's great

hearing the thick mix, with so much variety, yet stacking up so well together. Jayson Sherlock's drumming is outstanding, with beefy bass drum sounds and a biting snare. Michael Carlisle's guitar sound is extremely cool--just enough distortion crunch and high-end clarity to be heard well. Steve Rowe's bass playing sounds right in the pocket, filling out the overall sound well. The one thing that identifies the band the most--and keeps them (good or bad) in the Death/Grind pigeon hole is Steve's vocals.

Those vocals: Both fans and "non-fans" alike will comment on them. If mummies from Egyptian graves walked the earth, this is probably what they'd sound like. You really need a lyric sheet to follow the band's message.

Mortification shows that they've got the chops during the musical interlude in "Raise the Chalice." These guys can wail! The title track again proves it in a big way. The voice-overs in "Necromanicide" (Necromancy plus "icide"/death, therefore Necromanicide means death to necromancy) sound like Vincent Price. "Ancient Prophecy" ends the album with a rousing, long-winded performance that leaves the grind in you wanting more.

--DV

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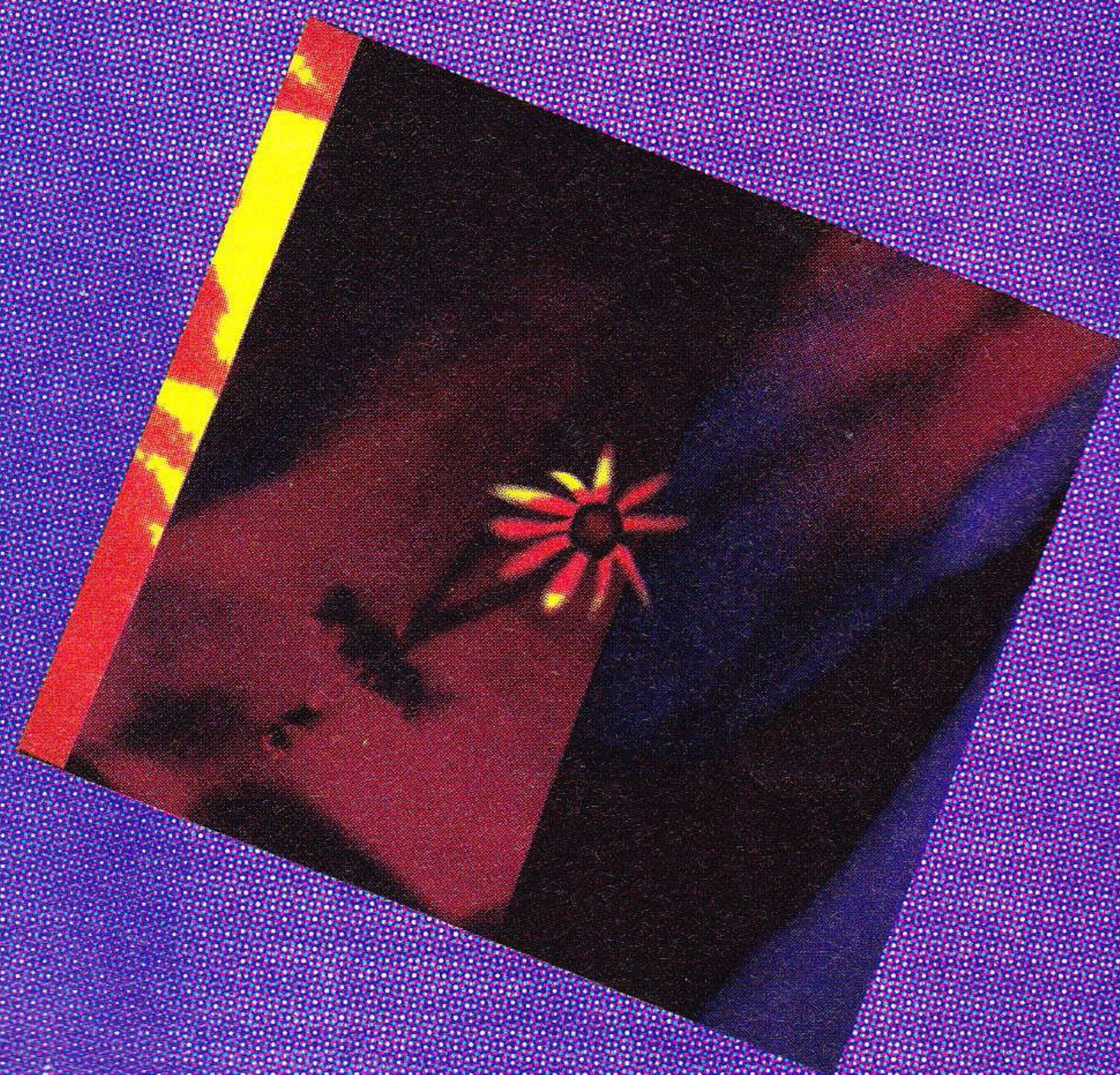


Thanks, Rock Alive—heard on Saturday and Sunday at 11 p.m. over the CBN radio satellite network—and Star Song Records, for sponsoring the "20 Years of REIZ" C-stone '92 contest!

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REZ
"LIVE - XX YEARS"

Grrr

Rez starts off this smokin' set with "Waves" (cut one from album one) complete with Tom Cameron's wailing harmonica. Then they tear into an inspired version of "Military Man." "Zuid Afrikaan" is next, which is preceded by a nice explanatory intro by Glenn Kaiser giving the song, as he does others in the set, a logical/historic framework that presents REZ as a well-rounded package. Written long before it was "politically correct" to lament over racism in South Africa, this song bleeds the statement that "God makes the color, but the color doesn't make you God!"

The band seemed well-paced that night, as they quickly segued from tunes like "Colours" and kicked into a big bass groove of "Players" without a hitch, only pausing momentarily to receive the animated applause from the appreciative crowd. One cut from each album shows up here, which is very cool. Some of these old tunes really had some new life pumped into them, like "The Struggle" (from "RAINBOW'S END"). Talk about passion... Yeah! This song oozes with it! You can tell the band was having fun this night. One proof text is Glenn joking about slowing things down right as the band stagedives into "Alienated." Rock Dinosaurs? Not!

"Paint a Picture," with its pouting piano and Glenn's vocals is the showstopper of this two-disc/two cassette collection. Afterwards Wendy gives a gripping testimony of her innocence lost and regained again several years later by Jesus--a fitting intro to "Right On Time."

"Love Comes Down" rocks with a great big, giant groove. Stu Heiss takes his own sweet time on his surprisingly subtle "White Noise" solo. "Bargain" comes off with lots of energy. Pete Townsend would be proud. The one song that had to be on this album, "Shadows," sounds as great as ever, complete with nice duo guitar textures. The band's cover of the Jefferson Airplane classic, "Somebody to Love," rekindles the power of the original.

Another great big highlight of the evening was "Everytime it Rains." Wait 'til you hear the sax solo in the middle of it...oh yes! What passionate lyrics...they mean as much today as when they were written over a dozen years ago. Longtime concert fav "Lightshine" shows up here in energized form, making one realize the awesome amount of quality tunes the band has at its disposal.

A great sermon about following Jesus seriously and not being distracted from Him by materialism closes the album, along with a simplified worship song. This second installment of REZ live surpasses the band's "BOOTLEG" effort and sure was recorded well. Way to go REZ!

--Doug Van Pelt

Various
"HEAVEN'S METAL COLLECTION"

Pure Metal

You'll be impressed by the packaging--you'll be amazed by all the music, you'll love the extended information inside-- But what struck me at first glance was how complete this collection seems to be! Obviously, on any collection configuration, you

can't include everything. If Doug Van Pelt did, we'd be listening to Metal music for eternity (not a bad idea, now that I think about it). This was one of those times when I wish I could have heard the selection process (like a "fly on the wall") and find out what material was being considered. What was kept will quickly become a quick start guide to the world of Christian Metal music, but you'll have to ask for it by its real name, "THE HEAVEN'S METAL COLLECTION."

With efforts as far back as 1978 by Rez (Oops, I mean Resurrection Band), Daniel Band and Jerusalem as an introduction, the collection spotlights 1984 with audio souvenirs by Stryper ("From Wrong to Right"), First Strike ("Loneliness Kills") and Barnabas ("Breathless Wonderment"). 1984! What a year! The same time period I was doing interviews with Barnabas, Stryper, Petra, Undercover, Rez Band (Oops! I mean Resurrection Band), Steve Taylor, et. al. Anyway, 1986 is where the HEAVEN'S METAL time machine stops next, with Barren Cross ("It's All Come True"), Saint ("Primed and Ready") and Messiah Prophet ("Heavy Metal Thunder"). And this world of Heavy Metal, as best as I can remember it, came into its own somewhere in this mid-80's time period, forging what had been and what was to be in 1987 with Trytan ("Genesis"), Rage of Angels ("Are you Ready for Thunder"), Leviticus ("Suffering Servant"), Bloodgood ("Self-Destruction"), Neon Cross ("Son of God") and the introduction of Whitecross ("No Way I'm Goin' Down").

Our Christian Metal tour of the 80's ends with Shout ("Shout"), Vengeance Rising ("White Throne") and X-Sinner ("Lift Him Up"), straight into the 90's with Holy Soldier ("Love Me"), Jet Circus ("Step On It"), Tour-niquet ("You Get What you Pray for"), Guardian ("Time and Time Again"), Believer ("Stop the Madness"), Novella ("Give me Love"), Bride ("Troubled Times"), Crucified ("Mindbender"), Ransom ("Lasting Love") and, rounding out this Metal time capsule, is Australia's own Mortification with "Destroyer Beholds."

Usually, when a band puts out a "collection," or "Best of" album, it usually means the band broke up; the band is leaving the record company, or a different direction for the band, perhaps changing band members. But when the premiere magazine of Metal for the Master puts out a collection like this, you know it was not thrown together in an hour. This is an accumulation of the emergence of Christian Metal from its inception in the late 70's, to the chart-topping bands of 1992. Some of the bands are not together any longer and some of them have been crankin' it for Christ from the beginning--and still going strong. But all will leave their Metal mark on your souls in this collector's collection of the best of what Heaven's Metal has to offer.

--Phil Sterling

SERAIAH
Star Song

While most bands are trying to beat the "sophomore jinx" with their second album, Seraiah had a "freshman jinx" to overcome. The band's "CARNIVAL WORLD" debut left a lot to be desired in a lot of people's

minds, and the band wanted to show that they were made of better material than that album displayed.

The most memorable moment from the debut was "Let Him Take Control," which was re-produced by Steve Griffith. This time the band has elected Steve to take complete control on this album, and they're better for it. This self-titled release is a whole head and shoulders above its predecessor.

The downfall of this release, though, is that it fails to adequately take you to the edge and shove you over. Many of the formulas, styles and riffs used show glimpses of success, but don't have the utzpah to take the song over the top. Angelica has had similar patterns: parts of the songs are great, but it's not consistent all the way through.

A couple songs here, though, break this curse and stand up and show forth excellence: "New Kind of Voodoo" and "Love Has No Bounds." These two tunes jump right out at ya upon first listen, while tunes like "No More Lies" (the first single) and "Angry Young Boy" grow on ya pretty quick after numerous listens. "Voodoo..." is the album's strongest point, with a real tight and sassy groove and a haunting vocal melody. "Love Has No Bounds" shines, because of its great chorus vocal lines, which are layered into that "perfect hook" that plays on in your mind. "When it Rains" showcases vocalist Brad Beckey's quality voice box, as well as Quinton Gibson's fine picking abilities. Both "Fever" and "Angry Young Boy" courageously tread new waters for the band. Although not sounding completely natural for Beckey, he pulls off a decent Rap vibe in "Fever."

Overall, I'd say Seraiah has missed the bullseye, but they've come close and shown the world that their live shows aren't a fluke.

--DV

Various
DEMOLITION
R.E.X.

This bright idea sampler (to release nine of the hottest underground Metal tunes) is a very hot collection of Thrash-o-matic/Alternative vibration Rock 'n' Roll ear salad. Thresher starts things off with a mean and beefy Metallica-like power thrasher called "My Reality." If the band's prior exposure on the "UNDERGROUND METAL 2" album years ago didn't win them fans, this tune surely will. Vocally, lyrically, sonically and musically the band scores high. Mortal Enemy keeps the album's energy going with a doomy intro and rapid-fire snare-driven tune called "Exodus of Life," intelligently and creatively telling the saga of one despairing and taking of life. The BGV's here also sound like the reigning kings of ungodly Thrash--Metallica.

Dodavahu takes the album in a different direction with its pouting and urgent vocals and Alternative riffings. Hot effect. Consecrator is one of the toughest underground Thrash outfits I've heard in a while, and "Free From Death," I think, confirms my belief. The rhythm section is extremely tight and the guitar tones achieved are deliciously crunchy. The Unknown stakes its claim at recognition with "Graphic Nature," a Believer-like tune dressed up with some creative percussion sounds that screams that "salvation

(is) the only hope for this insane world." Abhor Evil make some silly noise with "**Zone Zong**," which starts off with all the guys sounding like they're caught in a whirlwind of insanity. Then the band jumps into a thick groove that begs your head 'n' body to move. Hot Pink Turtle grooves 'n' moves out of the speakers with "**Glide**," a slippery tune with tasty portions of Funk and gritty Alternative stylings. Sardonyx places a cut from its debut album, "**Puppet of Beauty**," on here, balancing out the album with a definite push in the Power Metal (yet still thrashy) direction. Last, but not least, Immortal ends the collection with a tight 'n' gnarly ditty called "**Senseless Abandon**" about the idiotic, willful decision to abandon faith in Christ.

What else can I say, but this is a great collection. Fans of Thrash will eat up all nine tracks and have nine new bands to rave about.

--DV

SARDONYX

"MAJESTIC SERENITY"

Lightshine Music Group

Fans of Power/Progressive Metal and thrashers should love this crunchy combination of the two styles. This is Heavy Metal, played like it should be: powerful and with all-out energy.

"**Puppet of Beauty**" is a very interesting conversational conflict between wisdom and the "puppet of beauty," borrowing heavily from Proverbs, simulating the conflicting thoughts someone tempted by adultery/fornication. Sometimes the chugga-chug slows down too much here and sounds a bit flat. Tom Denlinger's vocals dominate the mix, which requires stylish expression--which he delivers. This strength sometimes becomes the band's weakness when Tom doesn't apply the same stylish embellishments and accents to his voice. In tunes like "**Heavenly Throne**" he sounds like a cross between Dave Mustaine and a young Ronnie Dio.

"**Corridor to Light**" is an 8-minute, 12-second epic about passing from death to the throne of God--played to the feel of a Sacred Warrior/Queensryche tune. "**Short But Suite: Opus in D Flat**" is a real funny name for a 1:08 bass solo. "**Ft. Drum**" is another instrumental with the full band rockin' out. Written in '87, the lead and rhythm lines show its date. While having the sonics of a major release, there is much room for improvement as far as peak separation between mids and the low end.

"**Holy Avenger**" really makes a go at the Haven, heavy Queensryche school of songwriting, especially with Tom's multi-punctuated vocals. "**Call Upon the Master**" is a cool-sounding commercial number with a loud, yet accessible, sound. The playing of guitarist and song composer Rod Feltman is exceptional here. The album closer, "**Voice of the Prodigal**," is the most aggressive of the bunch, with a quick pace and Mike Lee-ish angry vocals that stretch into Sim Wilson (Undercover) vibrato style in the slow parts. It's a very cool effect. The best song on the album.

Much of the music swells with heavy guitars, while other parts sink to flatness, keeping the music confined to Power Metal mongers and out of the league of commercially-successful power units like Iron Maiden.

But the band can't be accused of being poor performers or songwriters, though. Sardonyx debuts with a good album with a few peeks at future growth. Some of these tunes sound great loud--and would be mesmerizing live.

--DV

Various

ARGH!!! R.E.X. SAMPLER

R.E.X.

This 11-song sampler has some great tunes to offer. Haven's remix of "**The Calling**" sounds very powerful. Minier's "**Do Not Be Deceived**" remix is extreme and crunchier than the first. The Lead's "**The Empty Sepulchre**" is brutally intense, sounding like Vengeance Rising's "**White Throne**." Sacramento's "**Slave to Sin**" appears here, with heavy reverberated riffs kicking off this skull crusher. Living Sacrifice offers a never-heard-before bonus track, "**Progressive Change**," which rips (as usual, for these hot young thrashers). Believer's "**Vile Hypocrisy**" starts off with some silly studio talk between Kurt Bachman and R.E.X.'s Doug Mann and then the band goes for it.

Overall, this seems like a worthwhile acquisition. It's a good mixture of real heavy Metal and Alternative.

--DV

SHOUT/TAMPLIN

"AT THE TOP OF THEIR LUNGS"

Intense

This collection of Tamplin-penned hits shows off a hot songwriter who keeps writing good tunes. To make the album special, two new songs are added: "**When Secrets Cry Out Loud**" and "**Little Liar**," as well as a remix of "**Give me an Answer**" and an extended version of the lead guitar monster "**In Your Face**," which first introduced Tamplin listeners to Lanny Cordola's guitar playing. "**Secrets...**" is a great tune, with a nice, thick riff that means business. "**Little Liar**" is a rockin' and groovin' tune with a nice low-end.

What else is there to say? Mr. Tamplin writes some good songs--and here's a bunch.

--DV

"SANCTUARY PRAISE II"

Frontline

Wow! I thought this album would be another mellow praise album. I mean, FMG moved this release from Intense to Frontline; but Rachel Rachel starts the album off with a big bang to dispel that idea. "**Hallelujah**" is very praise-oriented and very rockin'. High emotions and high praises. Way to go girls! Robin Basauri of Jaguar keeps the energy high with his outstanding vocals on "**Lamb of God**." I got goose-bumps hearing this one for the first time! This one's gonna get lots of air time in my car stereo.

Good ole Darrell Mansfield (you know, he really is the most under-rated Christian rocker in the world) and his harmonica raise the praise in "**Praise Him if you Love Him**." Side two of the album is the mellow praise I expected from this album, going after an "unplugged" vibe. Overall, this album is much, much better than its predecessor.

--DV

EZRA

"THE KEY"

Asaph

First off, this is not the Ezra from Denver, Colorado who stirred up the Christian Metal underground a few years ago. These guys produce a nice melodic Hard Rock. Highlights of the album are "**Key to Heaven**" and "**Here For You**," a tasty melodic ballad with great guitar tones. Vocalist Thomas Potter reminds me a bit of Y&T's Dave Menicketi and Taime Down of Warrant. Fans of Idle Cure looking for something new will like these guys and their clean sound.

--DV

MODEST ATTRACTION

This band is extremely hot! Another Swedish import that says "This country don't make no junk!" This is excellent melodic Metal. "**Action**" shows the band putting its best foot forward with a Europe-like anthem. "**King of Rock and Roll**" is a few notches lower and makes me think these guys have been listening to the wrong bands for influence (The Bay City Rollers, maybe?). Not their best tune, obviously. "**Get Ready**" hops things back up with a somewhat tiring riff, but you can't argue with a good hook.

It sounds like the guys put some money into this project, for the sonics are very clean. "**Unfailing Love**" shows the diversity of the band, with a Delta Blues acoustic intro with a big, breathing mix carrying the song into "beautiful ballad land" without ever uttering a vocal line. It really shows the talent and taste of guitarist Stefan Selvander.

To order, send \$7 (in U.S. dollars) to: Christian Liljegren, Lundgatan 223, S-566 33 HABO, Sweden.

--DV

TERA

Here's some very tasty melodic Metal with big 'n' tasty BGV's to hook your brain for a deep listen. Good songwriting abounds, as "**Heaven in Your Heart**" shows in its breakdown bridge section and remaining verses. Yowza! Good stuff boys and girls!

"**Where Were You**" carries the four-song tape up higher on the excitement scale, with fantastic lead playing and big, big vocals. "**City Blues**" adds the necessary variety to the tape, showing the band has talent to spare. I wouldn't pass this tape up, underground consumers. For ordering info, write: Box 2007, Bridgeview IL 60455.

--DV

JUDGEMENT

As far as underground Thrash goes, this tape takes the cake for this issue. These guys from Georgia know about the power of excellent Speed Metal, for they really get up and go in "**Habitual Sacrifice**," the first tune from this three-song offering. The vocals, of course, are of the groggly razor-blade variety, but the music underneath kills.

"**Short Way to Hell**" has a killer hook--and you can easily decipher the lyrics! The lead guitar solos are mixed very well too. The production isn't perfect, but it's not bad. This is probably the best underground Thrash tape sent for review this time. To order, send



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Atlanta GA 30319.

--DV

WEeping PROPHEt

Heavy, thundering Thrash with semi-decent production sonics would be my one-sentence description of this tape. Hefty songwriting and fast riffing abounds. "The Warning" is the four-song tape's highlight, with well-crafted time and mood changes, including a real cool talk-over, which spells out the judgments God is bringing upon those who don't "heed the warning," which is complete with screams from the pit.

To order, send \$6 to: PO Box 9106,
Akron OH 44305-0106.

--DV

ABHOR EVIL

The guys from Abhor Evil are back with more fun, moshin' music (the Christian version of Anthrax?), yet this tape will keep their hot tunes from being enjoyed by anyone over the radio, because the sound quality is so muddy.

Tunes like "Mahalath" and "Dirty, Rotten, Stinky, Filthy Death" beg to be heard via killer sonics. These songs show real fun and hipness, yet I really want to hear it, not just sort of decipher the groove. Know what I mean? I don't wanna scare you away from these top-notch tunes. Nobody should miss out on "Age of Aquariums" and "Neural Enema." If you can't guess already, the lyrics are as fun as the music. These guys won't go away--hopefully. They've got tons-o-fun to offer. The band plans to remaster the tape before it's officially released, so you may feast upon better sonics. For ordering info, write: Jim Ellis, 206 S. Platten #3, Green Bay WI 54303.

--DV

JOE & THE COFFEEMAKERS

Here's some killer funk'n' groovin' stuff with primo sonics. These guys take a bold swipe at the Primus weirdo vibe and I think they really kill the ole beast with these tunes. The first of two cuts, "De Caf," prance along at a moshable/slam-able pace and mix a danceable groove into it. Hats off to this three-piece for a tight rhythm section. The album closer (what? only 2 tunes?) "My Pops," starts off with some dialogue from the Star Wars series, where Luke Skywalker discovers that Darth is his pops. The lyrics talk about being let down by an earthly father, but acknowledges that "my real pops wears a crown...He's in the sky!"

Great stuff. It cranks and it's clear. For \$4, you can't go wrong. Send to: Otto Jensen, 31645 Grove, Fraser MI 48026.

--DV

7TH HEAVEN

Walk into one of the hippest music stores in the country (Apple Music in Portland) and, amid the 350 guitars and literal tons of guitar amp stacks, you're likely to hear some great bass playing from the resident bass guitar slinger/salesman Doug Basler.

This mild-mannered virtuoso doesn't just use his talents for showcasing the latest in guitar technology, he's also a youth pastor and the singer/bassist for 7th Heaven,

the indie band that is packing clubs throughout the Portland area.

From the intro sound effects and the artsy guitar tones, you know from the start this is a quality "indie" album. Doug's vocals are high and clear and the opening cut (and LP's title) "Planet Under Siege" is reminiscent of the 70's band Styx. "Watching and Waiting" is a hook-filled power-pop ballad that could easily have commercial success without losing the rockers.

The overall sound is tight, the bass and drums (Brian Lawson) laying the foundations for the band's overall high-energy melody-rock approach. Not for the devout thrashers or hardcore metalheads, but if you're open for good Hard Rock along the lines of Giant or Rush, you'll like 7th Heaven. The lyrics are thoughtful and Dennis Bush's guitar playing is tastefully displayed throughout the album. He's got a great tone and feel.

The album "PLANET UNDER SEIGE" is consistent, and well recorded. Get it now so you can say you were into 7th Heaven before they were signed!

--Bruce

Adolph

KING'S GATE

Here's some real heavy Metal with the old-hat screaming operatic vocals. Fans of Fighter's male/female duo vocal approach should really dig this creative, well-produced commercial Rock tape. The lighter side works better for this band than does the cliché-d vocals of the heavy tunes.

For info, write: 5211 Wilcox Rd, Whitesboro NY 13492.

--DV

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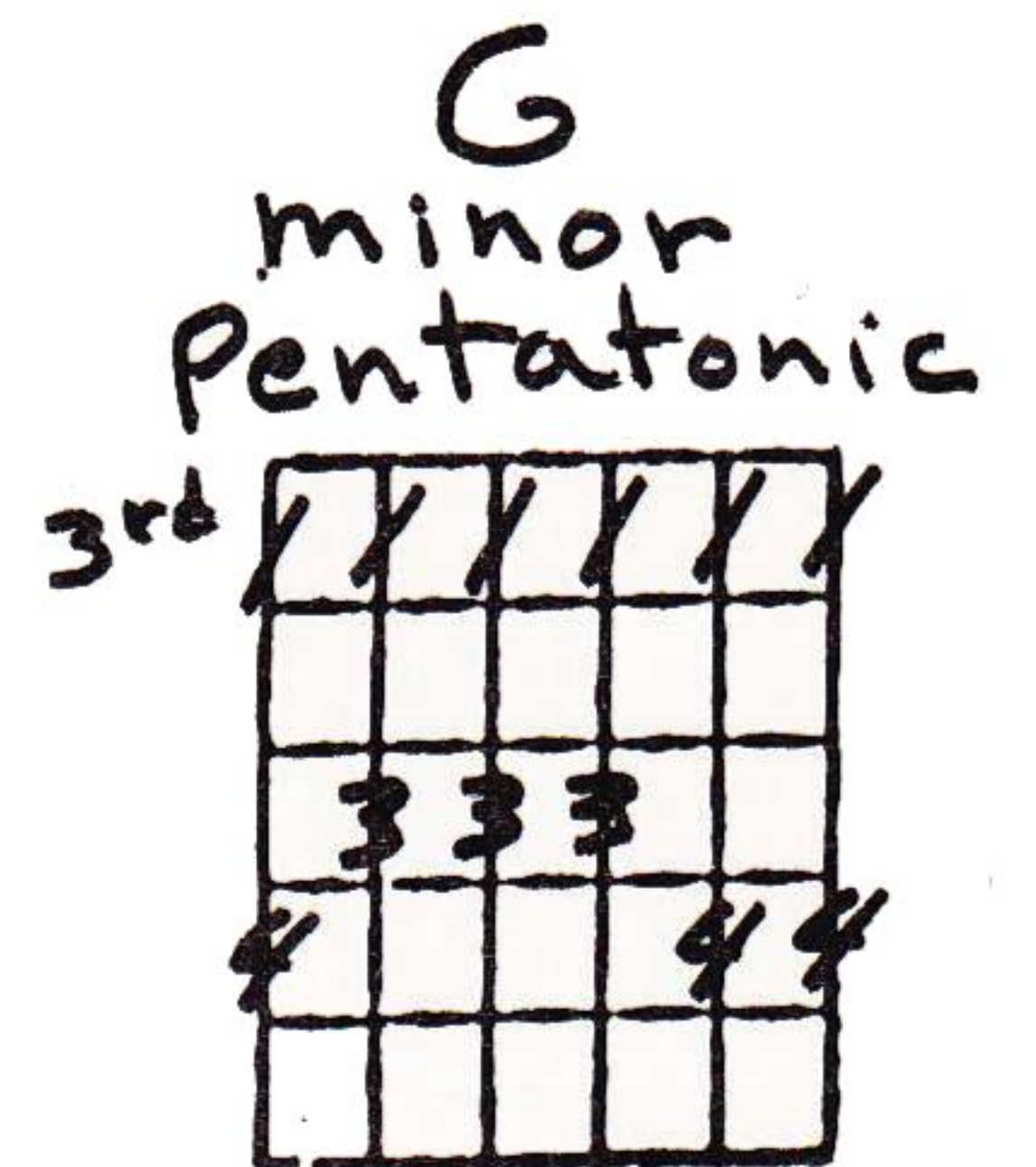
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"You're an idiot," Todd Screamed as he grabbed the Bible out of Jim's hands and threw it against the wall. His words echoed throughout the hallway. Jim could feel his face getting red as he realized he had become the focus of attention. It was fourth period. Everyone was busy opening and closing lockers. The final bell rang. Jim walked over and picked up his Bible that now lay open with its pages crumpled. As he walked to his World History class, he felt like an idiot.

Todd was not a Christian--and it seemed like he enjoyed giving Jim a hard time about his faith in Jesus Christ. Todd was "in love" with his girlfriend, and had decided this was the night they were going to "consummate their love." Jim stood boldly to tell his friend that what he was about to do was wrong! As the veins in his neck began to stand out, he raised his voice to emphasize just how much God hated this kind of sin! "Hell is full of fornicators and adulterers just like you," he screamed.

As Jim reflected on the event that had just happened, he realized that it wasn't being a "martyr for Jesus" that upset him. It was the fact that he couldn't hold up his end of the argument! Todd began to push him for more of a biblical explanation, but he didn't know what else to say! He knew the Bible was the inspired Word of God, but he had been unable to recall what it said specifically on the subject!

Sound familiar? How much do you actually know about your faith? How often do

you carry your Bible without actually opening it up to read and study?

2 Timothy 2:15 says, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the Word of Truth."

I'd like to give you a challenge. If you don't have a daily time of Bible study and prayer, why don't you begin? You'll be amazed at how much God will begin to use it! Not only will He bless you daily in your personal relationship with Him, but He will give you opportunities during the day to use what you have just read!

If you don't have a daily Bible study, I would like to remind you that we have one here at Sanctuary called "RAD (Radically Active Discipleship) Studies." It has topical studies as well as daily devotions. We offer it free of charge--all you have to do is ask for it! But, whether you use the RAD studies or you find another one that meets your needs, get started! Let's become workmen who do not need to be ashamed and who "correctly handle the Word of Truth."

If you need someone to talk to, remember that the Sanctuary talk lines are available 24 hours a day. In the U.S. and Canada, call toll-free 1-800-548-5222. For a copy of our latest newsletter containing a complete listing of Pastor Bob's teaching tapes and Bible study materials, please send a SASE to: Sanctuary, PO Box 4130, Redondo Beach, CA 90278-8330. **HM**

OK,

I've gotten several letters from players requesting that I cover some scales for beginner to intermediate players. So, the next couple of columns will be dealing with the first scale most of us learn to use--the minor pentatonic. Now this isn't just for neophytes, this scale is part of the arsenal of nearly every great player out there, from Eddie Van Halen to Eric Johnson.

The reason it is one of the first scales most people learn is that while the major scales contain 7 notes, the minor pentatonic has only 5 notes. (Penta = 5, Tonic = Tone, henceforth the 5 tone or 5-note scale.) This gives the scale a very "open" sound due to the fewer notes and larger intervals between notes. This scale is sometimes referred to as the Blues scale, but the actual Blues scale contains a flat 5. The minor pentatonic does, however, sound great over a Blues or Blues Rock progression.

We are going to learn this scale in G, so our 5 notes will be G, B-flat, C, D and F. Practice playing up and down the scale using strict alternate picking (ie. Down, up, down, up, etc.). Once you can play the scale smoothly, record a Blues chord progression in G and try soloing over it.

This is what we call a root G scale--in other words the root note, or note that names the scale, is played with the first finger on the sixth string. So, playing it on the third fret gives us a G minor pentatonic scale. If we want to play in A, we move it to the 5th fret and so on.

Next time we'll look at multiple positions of this scale! **HM**

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Both sides of this high quality 100% cotton shirt are printed with puffed white ink and red for the blood areas. The message is clear, it's easy to hang with the world, but it takes courage to bear the cross of Christ and confess Him in a world that so despises Him. However, Christ offers life, the world only knows death. "Choose this day whom you will serve!" Joshua 24:15

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THIS DAY
WHOM YOU
WILL
SERVE!**

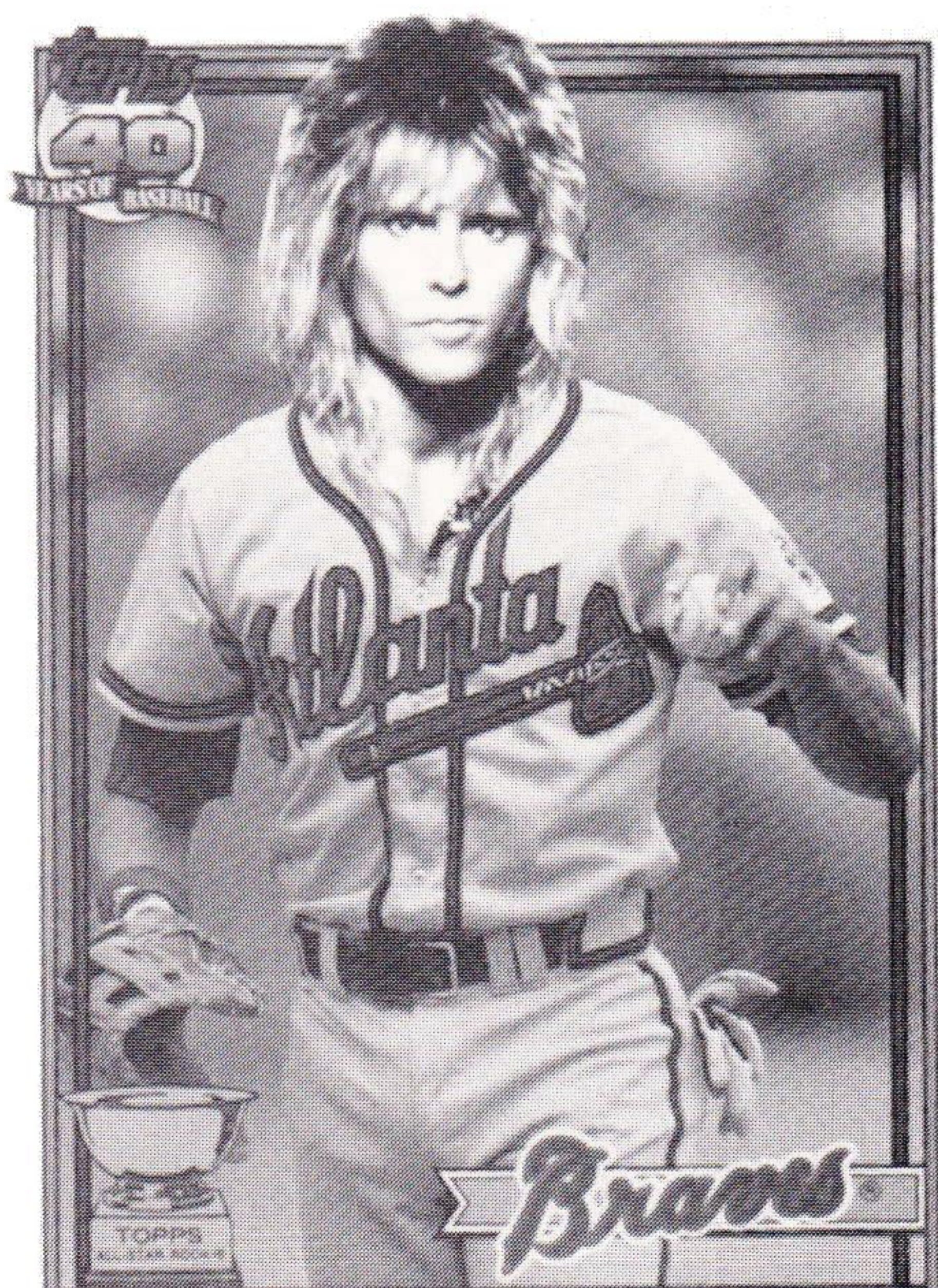
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INSIDE/OUT



DAVID BACH

HEY!

I suppose that it is always proper to give some kind of an introduction, but few things about this business are truly proper, so we'll just cut to the chase.

When we last left our friends in T.V. they were close to completing the hair-raising process of finishing their first record. By the time that Biff had finished his last lead vocal track, the guys knew that the gut-wrenching part was over!... (or had it just begun?)

Sal Monella brought in a couple of friends to help fill out the background vocals and the session guy that Sal brought in for the tuba solo in "**Snails in the Abyss**" laid down his part with ease. Ace was extremely happy that Sal had let him overdub almost every string instrument known to man on all different parts of the record. (Little did he know that most of it would not survive the mixdown...Hmm?) By the time that all the tracks had been completed, the guys were ready to celebrate! "All we gotta do is mix and we can start our world tour," blurted a happy Max. "Yeah," added Jimmy, "our record should be hitting the store in just a few weeks!"

Sal decided to take a few days off before mixdown, and the guys took this time to take the rough mixes that Sal made and spent the weekend playing them on their Walkmans in every mall in Tweezeville for anyone who even remotely looked like they liked Rock 'n' Roll. The Tortured Virtue boys were real happy with the sound of the rough mixes. They were punchy and raw, just what they had hoped for. They knew that mixdown would give their record that final power push! (Do you have the feeling that something strange is about to happen?...)

When the guys regrouped with Sal at Murray's Song and Dance Studios to begin

mixing, the first thing that Sal did was to sit the guys down and commend them on a job well done. "You boys did a great job! Now comes the final stage--MIXDOWN! I really need to concentrate here, so I really need you guys to be quiet, and we'll see if we can't mix you up a hit record!"

Sal and Murray then spent the next two hours wiring up a big rack of gear that Sal had brought with him. "What's all that stuff for?" asked Ace cautiously, nervously eyeing the rack mounted digital samplers. "Triggers!" replied Sal. "I have lots of great sounds on tape that I can digitally superimpose over some of the original tracks--it works great, especially on drums!"

"But Jimmy's drums sound nice and raw," said Max, "just how we like 'em, and..."

"Listen guys!!!" yelled Sal, now visibly angry, "Do you think I won all those Dove Soap Awards for Best Producer of the Decade because I don't know what I'm doing? Sorry, Jimmy, but there

is just too much attack on the snare drum on '**Revenge of the Boot Black**.' I'm gonna use the snare sound that I recorded on the Hoedad's big #1 hit, '**Crack the Loaf and Feed my Spirit**.' It has a much smoother sound." With that, Sal reached into his pocket and pulled out a couple of twenties and tossed them to Biff. "Here, you guys go out and take a long lunch on me. When you get back we'll have this first track up and going. Don't worry guys! Everything is gonna be great!"

So our friends in Tortured Virtue sheepishly made their way out of the studio and onto the street, nervously murmuring to one another their secret fears of Pop Record Purgatory... So, when the boys returned from a questionable lunch of crayfish sushi, they walked in to find Sal and Murray feverishly twisting knobs and moving faders to the pulsing sounds of "**Pancreatic Man**." The first thing the guys noticed was that Ace's guitar was real quiet and that Jimmy's snare drum sounded like he was hitting a paper sack. Everything sounded sonically clean, but wimpy. At this point, Ace decided it was time to take Sal to task about this. "Hey Sal, why does this sound so wimpy compared to the rough mixes?...and shouldn't my guitar be the loudest instrument in the mix?"

"Look Ace!" said Sal, looking over at Murray with a sigh of impatience, "I know you boys like that real heavy sound, but it's just not selling right now, and besides...your record company asked me to make sure that your record was not so heavy, 'cuz they really need some radio play off this one to break even."

"But Sal!" shouted Biff, now fully losing all composure, "THIS IS OUR RECORD!!!...we've waited our whole life to make this, and now you say it's gotta be wimpy just to please the record company and...What about us? We have to live with this record for

who knows how long, while you will just move on to another project!!!" (WHOA!!!) All the other guys in the band sat there in stunned silence, sheepishly looking at the ground. It was bad enough that the mixing process had started off on such a weak note, but now their singer had fully just gone off on the great SAL MONELLA (Thunder roll, please!).

There was a moment of extremely uncomfortable silence before Sal spoke. "Listen guys," said Sal calmly, "I know that this record means everything to you, so why don't we compromise and agree that you guys let me get each mix almost 'there,' and then we can adjust instruments to make certain one's louder. I promise I won't ruin your record, just give me the ballad and two good radio mixes and I promise we'll keep the others beefy, just how you guys like it. Is it a deal?"

(Whew!) The guys were relieved that Sal was not too angry with Biff's outburst and noticed that, in a roundabout way, Sal even seemed to accept Biff's condensed criticism of the whole record industry baloney, a reality that our friends in Tortured Virtue were now beginning to understand.

Is this high drama or what? (What!) Our friends have just experienced yet another lesson in the school of hard rocks, that being: "Mixdown can be Meltdown if you ain't careful." Now, what I'm really saying is that more people have marched through the making of an album, had great sounding rough mixes, only to end up with a lesser product after the final mix. This is one of the great mysteries of the recording process, and it has a lot to do with the fact that other people's ears hear things differently than you do. You may be so used to standing in front of your amp that you have gotten used to hearing yourself blazing loud in a certain song. It has always amazed me how I could lay down a really grindy bass track, only to have that cool, steely sound get eaten up by all the distorted guitars and drum reverb. Now, I'm no psycho-acoustic engineer, but I know that strange things happen during mixing. Multiple guitar tracks that sounded KILLER by themselves sound like garbage when mixed together.

Be ready for a certain amount of sonic weirdness. But, as far as the big picture goes, our friends should have sat down with Sal before recording and PLAYED him examples of different sounds and mixes from records that they think sound good. I stress the word PLAY, because lots of times you can be talking about bands, records and sounds, but everyone has a different perception of "vibe," so actually sit down and explain why you think this mix of this band's song sounds good, "because the guitar sounds like this," etc.

Now, as far as losing your cool in the studio... Face it! It happens, but you should pray daily before each session and those little flare-ups will stay minor. What Biff said really rings true, in that you will have to live with your record for much longer than you can imagine, so it is better to air your grievances in the studio before the record is finished, than to live with regret and pent-up hostility because you

Cont'd on bottom next page

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INSIDE/OUT Cont'd:

didn't speak your mind. Just choose your words carefully and try to be tactful (You can apply that one across the board in this business).

C-Ya!

"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." (Proverbs 15:1)

"He who trusts in himself is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom is kept safe." (Proverbs 28:26)

"The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the Lord." (Proverbs 21:31)

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HM

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Ulf Christiansen	Jerusalem
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Chris Davis	Glad
Scott Dente	Out of the Grey
Roby Duke	Solo
Dino Elefante	Producer
James Erdman	Xalt
Craig Erickson	Solo
Dan Gaub	Illustrator
Tom Hanby	2nd Chapter of Acts
Bob Hartman	Petra
Bill Heller	Fighter
Fern Hernandez	Paradox
James Hollihan	Russ Taff
David Huff	David & The Giants
Michael James	Solo
Phil Keaggy	Solo
Jay Leach	Solo
Gary Lenaire	Tourniquet
Kerry Livgren	Kansas
L.J. Lunstrum	Lunstrum Ministries
Jerry McPherson	Amy Grant
David Moore	Zion
Jim Nicholson	Undercover
Tim Norris	Imperials
Glen Pearce	Liaison
Galo Rivera	Galo and Friends
Chris Rodriguez	Amy Grant
Ray Sanchez	Producer
Rex Scott	X-Sinner
Joey Smith	Fire by Night
Jeff Stone	Steve Taylor
Russ Taff	Solo
Matthew Ward	2nd Chapter of Acts
Brian Wooten	White Heart
Peter York	Producer
David Zaffiro	Producer

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Our Survey Says:

Have you ever wondered what kind of people read Heaven's Metal? Us too.

That's why we conducted a survey last year, to which over 600 people responded. The results prove quite interesting. Did you know that 89% of you were male? The majority of you (69%) are between the ages of 16 and 24, and roughly 80% of you are single. Here's the breakdown by category:

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION

Some Primary School	3%
Some High School	26%
High School Grad.	25%
Some College	33%
College Grad.	10%
Some Grad. Work	2%
Master's Degree	1%

(63% of those between 12-19 are considering further education at a Christian college.)

OCCUPATION

Artist/Musician	12%
Music Industry	4%
Professional/Mgmt	8%
Teacher/Professor	2%
Pastor	2%
Homemaker	1%
Student	35%
Sales	5%
Unemployed	6%
Other (?)	25%

ANNUAL INCOME

Under \$10,000	62%
\$10,000-15,000	13%
\$15,000-20,000	9%
\$20,000-30,000	10%
Over \$30,000	6%

DENOMINATION

Assembly of God	10%
Baptist	18%
Catholic	2%
Charismatic	4%
Lutheran	2%
Methodist	3%
Non-Denominational	29%
Pentecostal	9%
Presbyterian	3%
Sanctuary	2%
Other	17%

OTHER MAGAZINES READ

CCM	30%
Spin	1%
Notebored	11%
(H Rock) Syndicate	8%
White Throne	14%
Take A Stand	5%
Rolling Stone	5%
Kerrang!	2%
Campus Life	6%
Others	18%

PEOPLE READING YOUR COPY

Just me	17%
One other	25%
Two	25%
Three	14%
Four	7%

Five	2%
Six or more	9%

WANNA SEE MORE OF IN H.M.

Artist Testimonies	25%
Music/Equipment	9%
Concert Schedules	23%
Unsigned Bands	14%
Color Photos	28%

PURCHASE MUSIC FROM

Mail-Order	17%
Christian Bookstore	77%
Local Record Store	6%

PURCHASE INFLUENCED BY

Demos	50%
Displays	10%
Posters	6%
Other	34%

(The vast majority of you said that album reviews had a great influence in your record-buying decision; followed by Band Interviews in influence above and beyond Advertising.)

FIND OUT ABOUT CONCERTS FROM

Radio Ads	13%
Flyers	19%
Word of Mouth	28%
Magazine Listing	34%
TV Ads	0.4%
Other	6%

LISTEN TO SECULAR MUSIC

	MALES	FEMALES
Sometimes	60%	76%
Never	32%	20%
Most of Time	8%	4%

PLAY MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

	MALES	FEMALES
Yes	62%	54%
No	38%	46%

INSTRUMENT PLAYED

	MALES	FEMALES
Piano/Keys	14%	38%
Horn	7%	2%
Guitar	34%	26%
Bass	18%	8%
Drums	20%	11%
Woodwind	3%	9%
Violin/Cello	1%	4%
Other	3%	2%

ALBUM FORMAT PURCHASED

	MALES	FEMALES
CD's	46%	26%
Cassettes	54%	74%

FAVORITE STYLE OF MUSIC

Thrash	25%	19%
Pop Metal	15%	17%
Power Metal	27%	23%
Rap	2%	3%
R&B/Urban	1%	2%
Rock	9%	14%
Classical	4%	4%
Praise	4%	6%
Jazz	2%	2%
Pop	2%	2%
Other	9%	6%

TOUR DATES

REZ

7/2 Cornerstone	312-989-2351
7/18 Vincennes IN	812-882-0213
7/31 Vancouver BC	312-989-2351
8/1 Penticton BC	604-492-0888
8/2 Penticton BC	" "
8/4 Lethbridge AB	403-320-1652
8/5 Brooks AB	403-362-4386
8/7 Calgary AB	403-276-5777
8/8 Edmonton AB	403-459-5809
8/9 Edmonton AB	" "
8/11 Lloydminster SK	312-989-2351
8/12 Saskatoon SK	" "
8/14 Winnipeg MB	" "
8/15 Winnipeg MB	" "
8/22 Joliet IL	815-485-2059

BLOODGOOD

1/23-31	Germany
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BRIDE

8/8 Bartlesville OK	918-333-3325
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LIVING SACRIFICE & BETRAYAL

7/16 Little Rock AR	814-362-1734
7/18 Charlotte NC	" "
7/21 Virginia Beach VA	" "
7/22 Washington DC	" "
7/24 Salisbury Beach MA	" "
7/25 Burlington VT	" "
7/26 West Brook ME	" "
7/30 Rochester NY	" "
8/1 Bradford PA	" "
8/2 Erie PA	" "
8/3 Euclid OH	216-953-1491
8/4 Mt. Airy MD	814-362-1734
8/7 Toledo OH	" "
8/8 Muskegon MI	" "
8/12 Newburg IN	" "
8/14 St. Cloud MN	" "
8/15 Minneapolis MN	" "
8/16 Waterloo IA	" "
8/18 Omaha NE	" "
8/20 St. Louis MO	" "

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7/17 Tampa FL	813-327-6474
7/24 Minneapolis MN	

DIE HAPPY

8/15 Marysville CA	916-743-6720
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TRADING POST Cont'd:

* **One lone female singer** looking for musicians to start a Christian band. Must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Vocals most comparable to Pat Benetar, Ann Wilson & Leslie Phillips. Influences include the above, Queen, Rush, Bride, Bloodgood, Stryper, Scarlet Red & REZ. Prospective members call Becki, 703-382-9158 or 381-2441.

* Looking for **speed metal** guitarist (2), drummer, and bassist. Evangelic heart needed. Age does not matter. Must have professional ability. Totally Christian. Be willing to relocate. If interested, please send demo-biography and phone # to: Steve Greer, 6988 Paladora Ln, Riverside, CA 92509 or call (714) 681-9854 (Please respond). Please have your own sound equipment..

* **ATTN. GUITAR PLAYERS:** The band Precious Death is seeking another rhythm/lead guitarist to complete its lineup. You: professional, willing to relocate, ready to tour, a sold-out, long-hair shredder with Marshalls who wants to join the hottest up-and-coming band in Southern California. Send bio/picture/demo to Precious Death, Box 668, Lomita, California 90717-0668 or call (310) 834-DUDE..

* **"HATIN' SATAN"** show wants your video concept, concert, interview. Public access alternative reaches 60,000 subscribers. Talk show type format reaches hardcore, punk, metal, alternative scene. X-High grade 1/2" preferred, 3/4" ok. Bands featured include: Vengeance, Crucified, Sacred Warrior, Tour-niquet, Lust Control, Paradox. Mike Boyd, 512-994-8280, 4913 Lansdown, Corpus Christi, Texas 78411..

* **Hey all you Christian Metal bands.** Need a talented 14 year old lead singer? If so, contact Frankie Butler by calling (913) 562-5476..

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	8	Cincinnati, OH
	14	Shelby, NC
	20	Flevo, Holland
	27	Kingdom Bound, NY
Sept	5	Charlotte, NC
	10	Upper MI, MI
	11,12	Minneapolis, Minn
	19	Cottontown, TN
	22	Shreveport, LA (T)
	23	Houston, TX (T)
	24	McAllen, TX (T)
Oct	25	San Antonio, TX
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Concert Reviews



KREYSON

Once upon a time in a small land in Europe called Czechoslovakia a lot of things began to change. In November of 1989 people stopped tolerating the previous system. One musician with high ambitions and his friends, sustained by success in a socialist country, couldn't wait any longer. A month before communism's crash they began to appear with their western neighbors. Vocalist Ladislav Krizek tried his luck in Germany. He used his fellowship with producer Jan Nemec and a singer from Running Wilde to record in M-Studio in Hanover. Thanks to their helping hand, their first record appeared in both a British version and Czech version: ANGEL ON THE RUN and ANDEL NA UTEKU, respectively.

The one with Czech lyrics soon became a hit and the best selling record in Czechoslovakia in 1991, selling about 150,000 copies--overcoming the limit of 100,000 records necessary for achieving Gold Record status in this country. This was the reason for establishing a super concert on December 21st

in Prague.

It was not a very optimistic time for Czech people, because the poor financial situation caused a marked decline in attendance in Rock concerts, movie theaters, etc. Nevertheless, somewhere around 15,000 fans showed up to see Kreyson. It is worth mentioning that a month later in the same hall only 5,000 people came to see the popular Swedish Rock group Europe.

The concert began with remembering Freddie Mercury. Some of Queen's hits had been played that evening. The English version of "Fade Out" got all the fans into a good mood from the very beginning. The material consisted of songs from the first album and some new material from vocalist Ladislav Krizek. The superhit "Faraway/Vzdalena," which was leading our top-forty for over five months was sung by everyone in the hall who had a mouth.

After an hour and a half of great performance done in really good taste with a beautiful audience, the lights above the monster stage were turned off. During this pause the artists were throwing out candies and

sweets (a gift from the sponsor). A drawing took place, where they gave away some TV sets and VCR's. Later a man dressed in a black suit came on stage and presented the band with something shiny in his hands. It was a Gold Record! The show continued with half an hour more of some new songs.

After the show the band does some interviews for magazines and a TV program called "Bango." After seven hours of sleep the guys have to be 700 kilometers away to take place in another TV competition in Slovakia. Kreyson is a winner again! Soon after the band continued on their first Czech tour. The monster stage with a tempest above it has a great cross (10 meters high), which appears behind the drums during the concert and brings the audience to their knees.

Before the revolution in 1989, nobody could even dream about White Metal in Czechoslovakia. Thanks to Kreyson, it's become reality.

--Joseph Kozenek & Mark Gwozdzievich

HM

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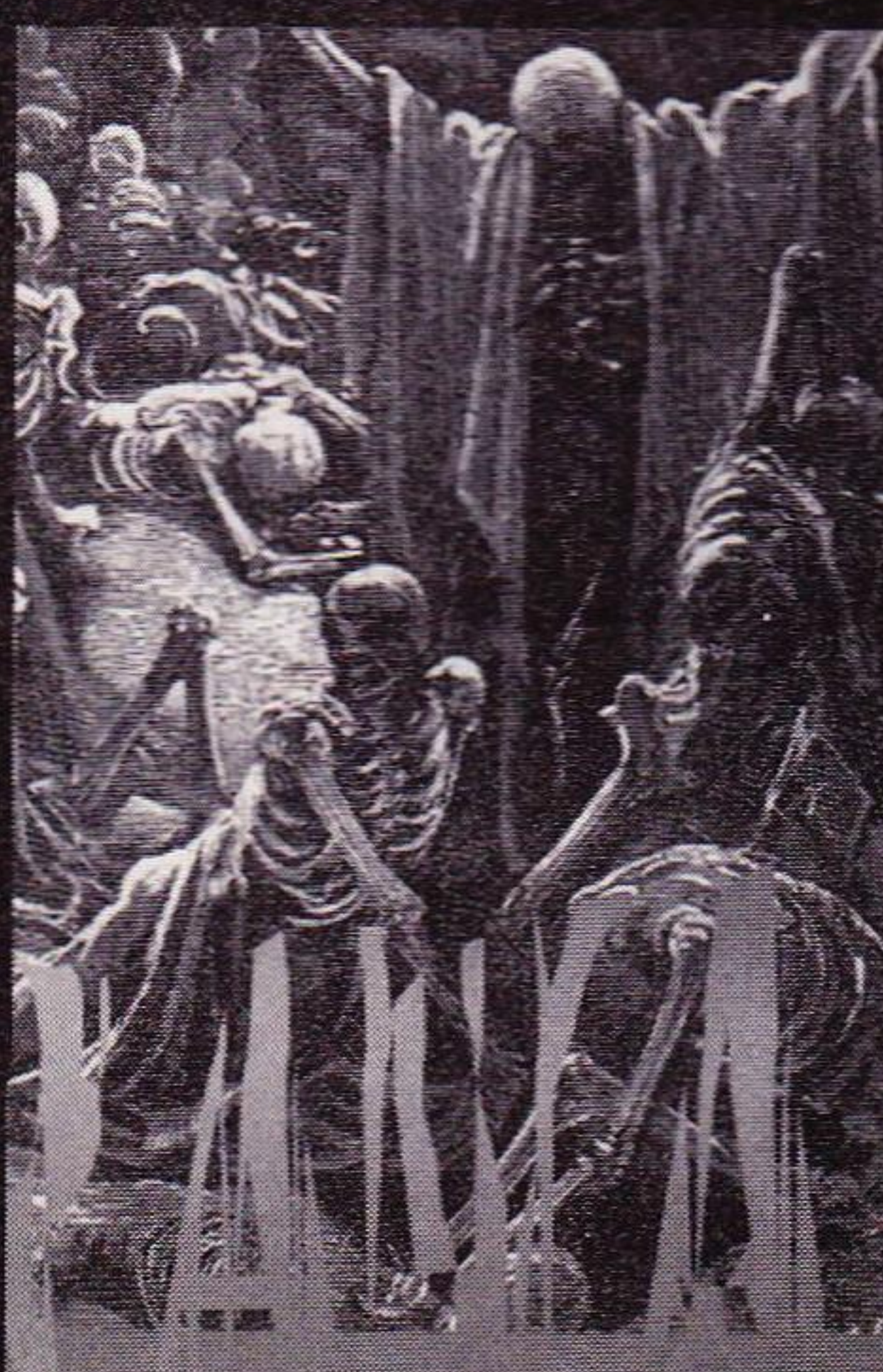
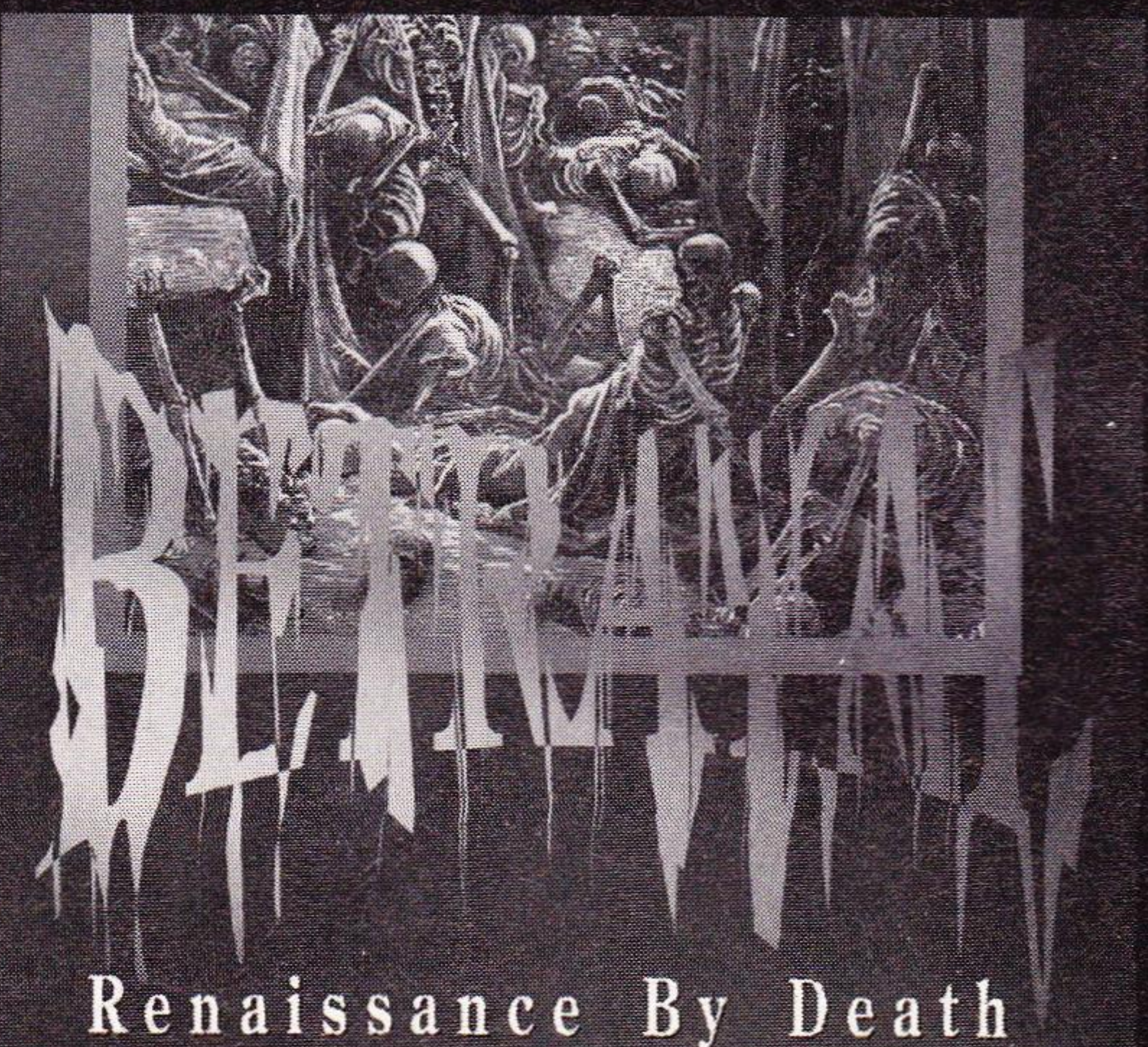
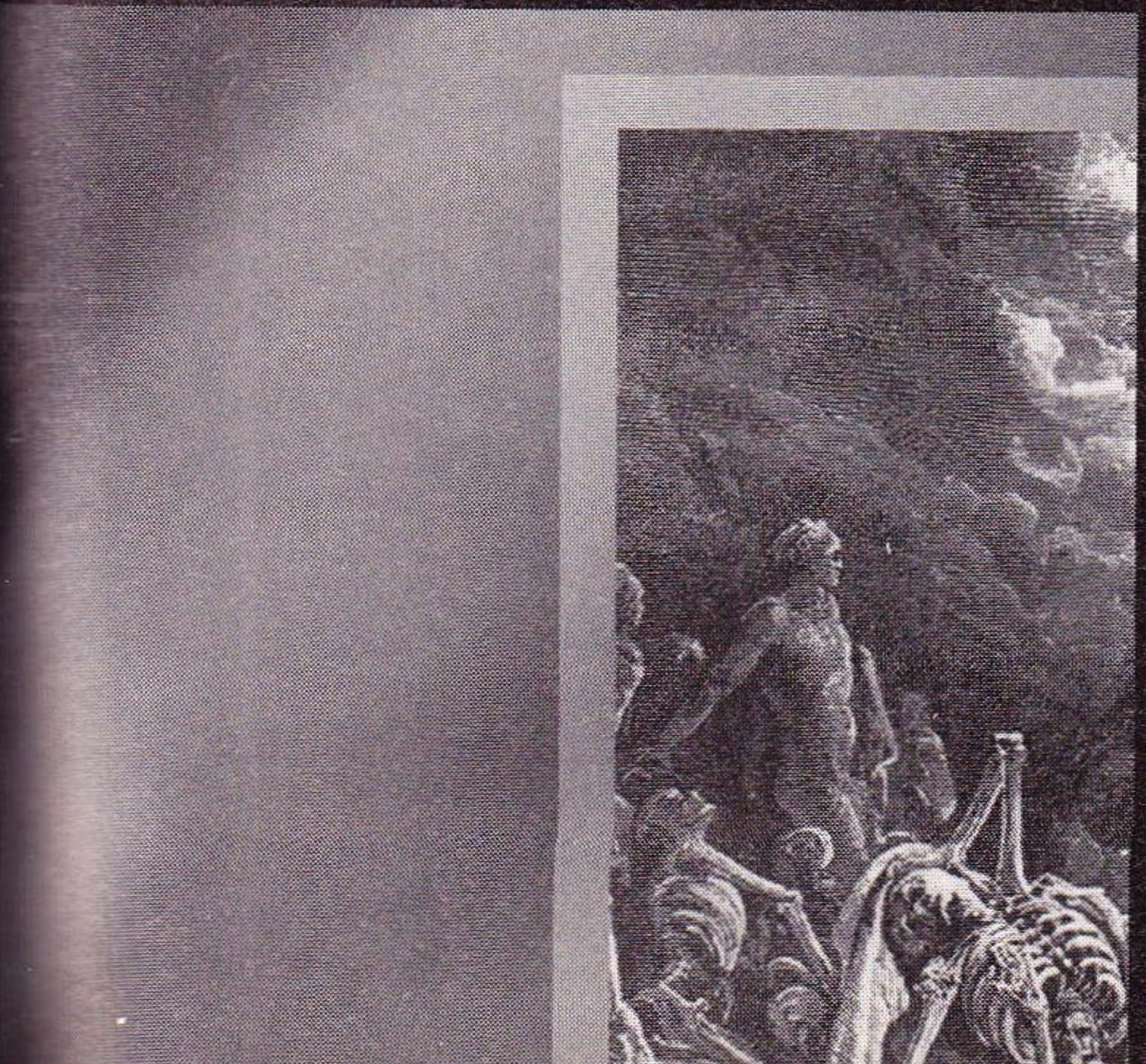
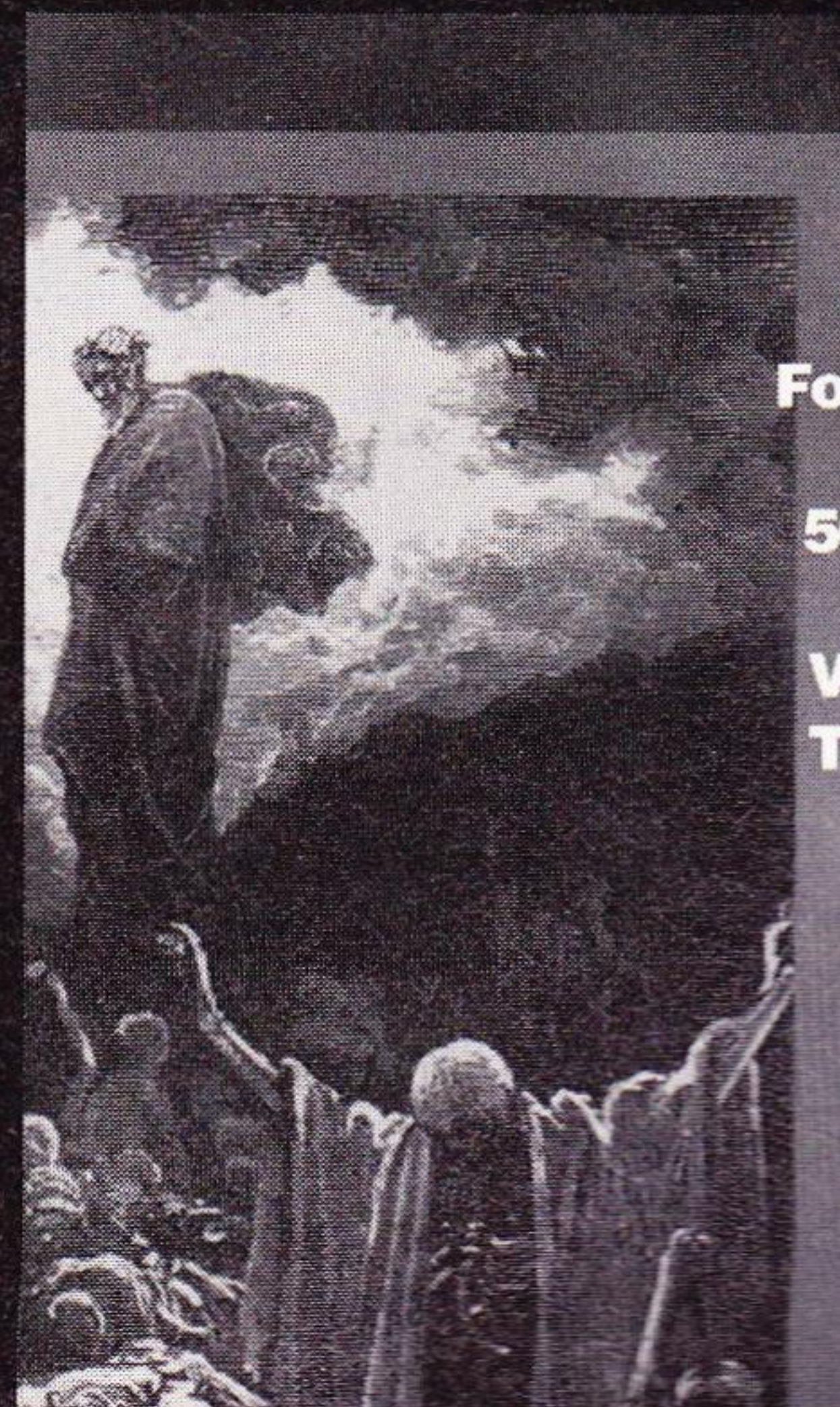
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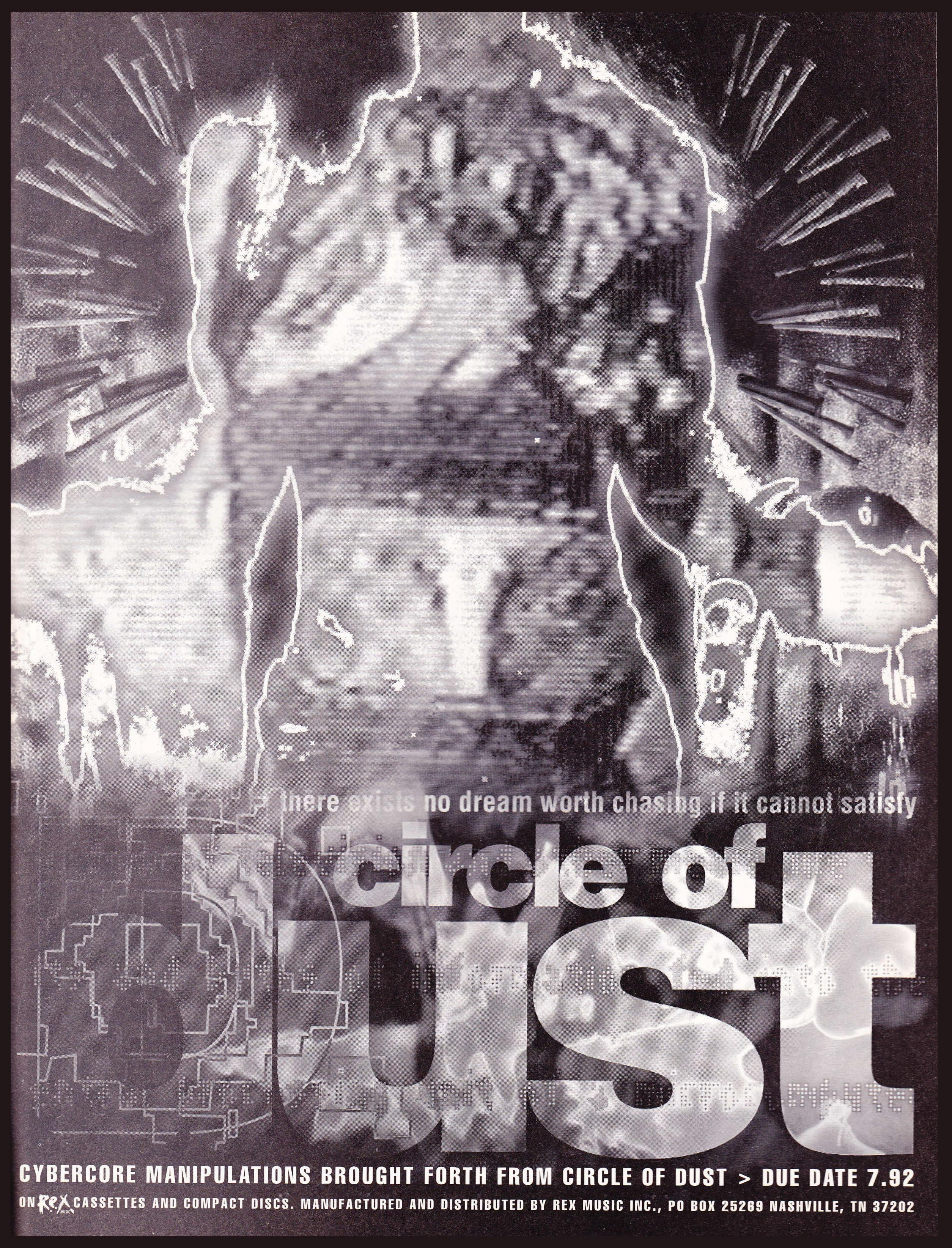
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Our God is a Father. Jesus

called Him Father
and instructed us
to do so also

(Luke 11:2).

Our Father

has a
father's
heart
that
cares
for
His
child-
ren as
any
good
father
would
care for
the person
that came
from his own
creation.

When a proud
daddy looks at
his newborn child, a
wondrous spectrum of
emotions swell up inside
him. He wants to shout for
joy, hold the tiny tot in his arms,
brag to those around, cry tears of
love, hang his jaw open in suspended awe, and

speak to the child in loving, gentle tones. How descriptive this is of our Father in Heaven's heart. His heart burns with passion over mankind. He was so happy to create man. He said it was very good when He first laid eyes on man.

(Genesis 1:31)

A good father has a deeper attachment to his son or daughter than to other people. There's an invisible cord attached from his heart to theirs that would cause him to lay down his own life to protect his child's life. This attachment is one of the wonderful things about love. It's a bond that is so deep that the father doesn't have to ask himself if he wants the best for his child or count the cost before he will act on his child's behalf. It's an automatic response to care for his child. God's heart is so for you and I. He is not against us--even when we sin. "I know the thoughts I think toward you," says God, "thoughts of peace, and not of evil." (Jeremiah 29:11) "For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him." (Psalm 103:11)

Our Father in Heaven is not seeking to beat the sin out of us. Our sin breaks His heart, because He loves us so much and wants the best for us. All of His commandments and "thou shalt nots" are given to us for our own benefit and true freedom, not to stifle or imprison us. (Deuteronomy 10:13) When He does chastise us, just as a Father would spank his child, it's to keep us from harm.

The harm that sin brings us is so destructive and dangerous that God's heart was moved to action. Before the beginning of time (Ephesians 1:4) God planned to let His heart be exposed to mankind, burst with grief, and sacrificed on a cross--all to bring us to the mercy He is quick to and longing to give us. Let your heart be still long enough to ponder what God's heart is towards yourself--and embrace the bleeding-heart love He has for you.

